



LAST MONTHS
AVERAGE DAILY SALE
424,000

No 63,606

30p

THURSDAY JANUARY 18 1990

Homosexual inquiry into Scots judges

Lord Dervaird quits after ultimatum

By Kerry Gill

Five of Scotland's 24 High Court judges have been under investigation after allegations of homosexuality, a senior legal source confirmed last night.

The revelation comes after one of them, Lord Dervaird, aged 55, resigned from the bench after allegations of homosexual behaviour were put to him shortly before Christmas by Lord Hope, the Lord President of the Court of Session, equivalent to the Lord Chief Justice in England.

The senior legal source said that Lord Dervaird, formerly Mr John Murray, QC, was advised to resign or face an inquiry, but no details of allegations against him were revealed. He declined to comment when he resigned after less than two years on the bench, but rumours soon became rife.

Various allegations that have been investigated con-

cerned four other judges, whom the source called simply judges A, B, C, and D.

There have been allegations that judges had taken part in homosexual activities with young men in a country cottage in south-west Scotland and had frequented public houses and clubs in Glasgow known to be haunts of the homosexual community.

No further resignations are expected and none will be sought. The legal source said: "If there was a judge who had a homosexual relationship of a steady nature which did not expose him to the risk of blackmail and public ridicule or give rise to the risk that his judgement would be compromised, that would not preclude him from serving on the bench."

The Scottish Office declined to comment last night; and the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, rejected a request from Mr Jim Sillars, Scottish National Party MP for Glasgow Govan, for a statement in the Commons. Mr Sillars, who did not name Lord Dervaird, said he understood Scottish national newspapers had been briefed, and Scotland was being "swept with rumours" on the issue.

Lord Dervaird was appointed a judge on January 29, 1988 to replace Lord Jauncey who was made a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary.

As Mr Murray, he was admitted to the Faculty of Advocates in 1962 and took silk in 1974. Lord Dervaird, a married man, was chairman of the Scottish Lawyers' European Group from 1975 to 1978 and from 1978 was chairman of the Scottish Council of Law Reporting.

He has also been a member of the Scottish Law Commission and vice-president of the Agricultural Law Association of the UK. From 1979 to 1985, he was chairman of that body.

He also denied another allegation that he had visited a Glasgow disco with people suspected of being homosexual. A third allegation that the judge might know of a country cottage where criminal conduct had taken place with boys was investigated after the Lord Advocate contacted the area police. The Crown Office also checked, but the rumour was found to be without any foundation.

Lord Hope spoke to Judge A on a number of occasions and the judge strenuously denied that he was involved in any activity of an improper nature, the source said.

Rumours were also circulating concerning Judge B, but there were no specific allegations other than that his name was being mentioned in a homosexual context. The

INSIDE



At the mercy of the elements

• "Some water supplies do not come up to EC regulations, and some of the substances involved have a known health risk. But how big that risk is, no one knows." The Times Guide to Healthy Living continues with an examination of the threats posed by the environment modern man has created for himself. See page 11

• From today, The Times is expanding its coverage of science and technology. Our four-page report begins on page 31

• There was only one winner of yesterday's £4,000 Portfolio Platinum prize (see page 3). Today's chance to win £2,000 is on page 29

New-look Cook

Thomas Cook, the travel agency owned by Midland Bank, is to spend £18 million on revamping 250 of its high street outlets to encourage higher-spending travellers to book with them. Page 23

INDEX

Home News	2-5
Overseas	6-9
Business	23-30
Sport	38-44
Archaeology	44
Arts	18, 19
Births, marriages, deaths	15-16
Books	17
Church news	14
Court & Social	14
Crosswords	20, 22
Diary	12
Entertainments	20
Features	11, 12, 16
Information	20
Law report	38
Leading articles	13
Letters	13
Obituaries	14
On This Day	15
Parliament	10
Satiric	4
Science Report	34
Special report	35, 37
Technology	31-35
TV & Radio	21
Weather	22

★★★★★

MPs question Rover sale

By Sheila Gunn, Political Reporter

Lord Young of Graffham said yesterday that he will withhold from the European Commission full details of the final terms on the £150 million Rover sale to British Aerospace because he did not consider it their concern.

The former Trade and Industry Secretary's statement came as he faced MPs for the first time to answer allegations that he deliberately deceived Parliament and the EC over £38 million in hidden sub-

sidies to BAe to close the sale. He also insisted that he still believed the EC would not order the repayment of the £22 million in interest which BAe admitted it had gained from

Photograph 2

Parliament 10

delaying the £150 million purchase price for more than 20 months. He said the deferred payment agreement was not "a state aid".

In his first full explanation in Parliament, Lord Young said he strongly objected to attempts to "run down" the sale and insisted there were no improprieties involved.

As he answered allegations that he deliberately deceived Parliament and the European Commission over the final terms, he retorted that the deal "was a great triumph" and accused critics of seeking to make short-term political advantage out of the affair.

The announcement came as

With the social security Bill for single-parent families now topping £3 billion a year Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday warned that Britain was reaping the harvest of the permissive 1960s with a breakdown in the family unit which represented "a new kind of threat to our whole way of life".

She linked the breakdown with the increase in child cruelty and teenage homelessness, expressed outrage at the

increase in child sexual abuse and signalled a new drive to restore moral values, insisting the permissive 1960s was beginning to swing back. The

Leading article 13

Letters 13

Prime Minister said in her inaugural George Thomas Lecture under the auspices of the National Children's Home that one in five children now

Continued on page 22, col 7

Photograph 2

Parliament 10

delaying the £150 million purchase price for more than 20 months. He said the deferred payment agreement was not "a state aid".

In his first full explanation in Parliament, Lord Young said he strongly objected to attempts to "run down" the sale and insisted there were no improprieties involved.

As he answered allegations that he deliberately deceived Parliament and the European Commission over the final terms, he retorted that the deal "was a great triumph" and accused critics of seeking to make short-term political advantage out of the affair.

The announcement came as

With the social security Bill for single-parent families now topping £3 billion a year Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday warned that Britain was reaping the harvest of the permissive 1960s with a breakdown in the family unit which represented "a new kind of threat to our whole way of life".

She linked the breakdown with the increase in child cruelty and teenage homelessness, expressed outrage at the

increase in child sexual abuse and signalled a new drive to restore moral values, insisting the permissive 1960s was beginning to swing back. The

Leading article 13

Letters 13

Prime Minister said in her inaugural George Thomas Lecture under the auspices of the National Children's Home that one in five children now

Continued on page 22, col 7

Photograph 2

Parliament 10

delaying the £150 million purchase price for more than 20 months. He said the deferred payment agreement was not "a state aid".

In his first full explanation in Parliament, Lord Young said he strongly objected to attempts to "run down" the sale and insisted there were no improprieties involved.

As he answered allegations that he deliberately deceived Parliament and the European Commission over the final terms, he retorted that the deal "was a great triumph" and accused critics of seeking to make short-term political advantage out of the affair.

The announcement came as

With the social security Bill for single-parent families now topping £3 billion a year Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday warned that Britain was reaping the harvest of the permissive 1960s with a breakdown in the family unit which represented "a new kind of threat to our whole way of life".

She linked the breakdown with the increase in child cruelty and teenage homelessness, expressed outrage at the

increase in child sexual abuse and signalled a new drive to restore moral values, insisting the permissive 1960s was beginning to swing back. The

Leading article 13

Letters 13

Prime Minister said in her inaugural George Thomas Lecture under the auspices of the National Children's Home that one in five children now

Continued on page 22, col 7

Photograph 2

Parliament 10

delaying the £150 million purchase price for more than 20 months. He said the deferred payment agreement was not "a state aid".

In his first full explanation in Parliament, Lord Young said he strongly objected to attempts to "run down" the sale and insisted there were no improprieties involved.

As he answered allegations that he deliberately deceived Parliament and the European Commission over the final terms, he retorted that the deal "was a great triumph" and accused critics of seeking to make short-term political advantage out of the affair.

The announcement came as

With the social security Bill for single-parent families now topping £3 billion a year Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday warned that Britain was reaping the harvest of the permissive 1960s with a breakdown in the family unit which represented "a new kind of threat to our whole way of life".

She linked the breakdown with the increase in child cruelty and teenage homelessness, expressed outrage at the

increase in child sexual abuse and signalled a new drive to restore moral values, insisting the permissive 1960s was beginning to swing back. The

Leading article 13

Letters 13

Prime Minister said in her inaugural George Thomas Lecture under the auspices of the National Children's Home that one in five children now

Continued on page 22, col 7

Photograph 2

Parliament 10

delaying the £150 million purchase price for more than 20 months. He said the deferred payment agreement was not "a state aid".

In his first full explanation in Parliament, Lord Young said he strongly objected to attempts to "run down" the sale and insisted there were no improprieties involved.

As he answered allegations that he deliberately deceived Parliament and the European Commission over the final terms, he retorted that the deal "was a great triumph" and accused critics of seeking to make short-term political advantage out of the affair.

The announcement came as

With the social security Bill for single-parent families now topping £3 billion a year Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday warned that Britain was reaping the harvest of the permissive 1960s with a breakdown in the family unit which represented "a new kind of threat to our whole way of life".

She linked the breakdown with the increase in child cruelty and teenage homelessness, expressed outrage at the

increase in child sexual abuse and signalled a new drive to restore moral values, insisting the permissive 1960s was beginning to swing back. The

Leading article 13

Letters 13

Prime Minister said in her inaugural George Thomas Lecture under the auspices of the National Children's Home that one in five children now

Continued on page 22, col 7

Photograph 2

Parliament 10

delaying the £150 million purchase price for more than 20 months. He said the deferred payment agreement was not "a state aid".

In his first full explanation in Parliament, Lord Young said he strongly objected to attempts to "run down" the sale and insisted there were no improprieties involved.

As he answered allegations that he deliberately deceived Parliament and the European Commission over the final terms, he retorted that the deal "was a great triumph" and accused critics of seeking to make short-term political advantage out of the affair.

The announcement came as

With the social security Bill for single-parent families now topping £3 billion a year Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday warned that Britain was reaping the harvest of the permissive 1960s with a breakdown in the family unit which represented "a new kind of threat to our whole way of life".

She linked the breakdown with the increase in child cruelty and teenage homelessness, expressed outrage at the

increase in child sexual abuse and signalled a new drive to restore moral values, insisting the permissive 1960s was beginning to swing back. The

Leading article 13

Letters 13

Prime Minister said in her inaugural George Thomas Lecture under the auspices of the National Children's Home that one in five children now

Continued on page 22, col 7

Photograph 2

Parliament 10

delaying the £150 million purchase price for more than 20 months. He said the deferred payment agreement was not "a state aid".

In his first full explanation in Parliament, Lord Young said he strongly objected to attempts to "run down" the sale and insisted there were no improprieties involved.

As he answered allegations that he deliberately deceived Parliament and the European Commission over the final terms, he retorted that the deal "was a great triumph" and accused critics of seeking to make short-term political advantage out of the affair.

The announcement came as</

NEWS ROUNDUP

Officers to take Dear to tribunal

Several former members of the West Midlands serious crime squad, which was disbanded last year, have started legal moves to take Mr Geoffrey Dear, the Chief Constable, before an industrial tribunal (Craig Seton writes).

The officers were among 53 detectives who were moved from operational duties to administrative jobs by Mr Dear last August when he ordered an unprecedented inquiry into the activities of the serious crime squad after allegations that some of its members had fabricated evidence.

Up to seven officers, including a chief inspector, an inspector, a sergeant and a constable, are involved in the plan to go to an industrial tribunal where they are expected to claim that their Chief Constable's action changed the nature of their jobs to such an extent that they consider they have been constructively dismissed.

The Police Federation, which represents officers up to chief inspector, is supporting them. West Midlands police said: "There is no precedent for this sort of action."

Ivory trade reprieve

Ivory traders in Hong Kong have been given the right to continue trading legally despite an international treaty banning the sale of ivory (Ruth Gledhill writes). Britain yesterday entered a six-month reservation to the prohibition on ivory trade by Hong Kong. Wildlife and conservation bodies condemned the reservation, disclosed by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, so that traders can dispose of the legally acquired ivory.

Spitting Image sale

Spitting Image, the Central Television satirical puppet show, has a new chairman (Martin Waller writes). Mr William Sargent, who runs a graphics company providing special effects for television, would not disclose yesterday how much he paid for his estimated 60 per cent share in the company. He is buying out three sleeping shareholders. Some of their shares will also go to Mr Peter Fluck and Mr Roger Law, who helped to found the company behind the latex puppets. Mr Sargent will take over the daily running of the organization.

Rival route dropped

Proposals to build the second Channel tunnel terminal at Stratford, east London, rather than at King's Cross, were formally repudiated yesterday by Ove Arup, the firm of consulting engineers that has been promoting the £2.15 billion scheme (Michael Dynes writes). Abandonment of the project came after a series of public meetings attended by Mr Timothy Jannan, Conservative MP for Thurrock, and Mr Colin Stannard, an Ove Arup consultant.

Wind gust of 161mph

A wind gust of 161mph, the strongest registered at low level in Britain, was recorded at the Butt of Lewis, western Scotland, on Tuesday night (Kerry Gill writes). The hurricane-force gust was recorded at a lighthouse on the most northerly point of the Western Isles. Mr John Knight, the keeper, said: "We hardly felt a thing." The wind was measured at Force 17 on the Beaufort Scale, beating the record of 141mph set at Fraserburgh, north-east Scotland, last February.

Air hooligan billed

A passenger who forced a flight to be diverted has received a £1,400 bill from the airline. He threatened other travellers on the Britannia Airways charter flight from Tenerife to East Midlands Airport last November and hit out at two women, the airline said yesterday. When the crew failed to calm the man, the pilot diverted the plane to Lisbon, where police removed him. Britannia has billed the man for handling charges at Lisbon and the extra fuel needed.

Liverpool appointments

Two Militants land Euro jobs

By Nigel Williamson, Political Staff

Two leading Militant supporters, expelled from the Labour Party in 1986 and barred by the House of Lords from holding civic office for five years, have landed top jobs paid for by the Labour-controlled Liverpool council.

Mr Tony Mulhearn, a former councillor, who was seen constantly at the side of Mr Derek Hatton during Liverpool council's budget confrontation with the Government in the mid 1980s, has been appointed together with Mr Frank Mills, another debarred councillor, as the city's liaison officers with the European Parliament.

The jobs carry salaries of £15,000 a year each but the total cost of the new unit was estimated by £150,000. Labour source last night at £150,000.

The move has already been condemned by some Labour councillors as a "job for the boys' digrass". One said that it had been "sprung" upon them at a meeting of the council's Labour Group on Monday.

The appointments were carried by 21 votes to 17 with 18 councillors absent and moves are already afoot to overturn the appointments at a specially reconvened meeting of the group, not least because the jobs were never advertised.

Although the two will be

formally employed by Mr Kenneth Stewart, one of Liverpool's two Labour MEPs, the salaries and running costs of the new unit will be met out of council funds.

Mr Stewart defended the appointments saying: "They are quite capable of doing the job. I know they will do their best for the city — they would not last five minutes if they didn't. We need people in the city to follow up our applications for European grant cash and lobby in Liverpool and Brussels when necessary."

The reappearance in Liverpool politics of two prominent supporters of Militants will add support to the claims of Mr Frank Field, the deselected MP for Birkenhead, who yesterday submitted a dossier of complaints about continued Militant activity in the region to the Labour Party's National Executive.

The officers are the experts relied on to deal with hijackings and hostage situations. Apart from firearms skills, they are trained in negotiation techniques and are involved in security for embassies and government offices in Dublin.

During Ireland's presidency of the European Community they have an important part to play and are expected to be involved in security arrangements for the 12 Community foreign ministers who arrive in Dublin this weekend.

The Garda inquiry into the Athy incident is also expected to examine why the press office issued no less than five substantially different versions of what happened and

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

A sentencing council designed to bring greater consistency from the courts was proposed by the Labour Party yesterday in a package of reforms aimed at substantially reducing the prison population.

Prisons would close as the reforms, which see jail as a punishment of last resort, and new crime prevention measures began to bite, according to proposals published by Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Home Secretary.

Restrictions introduced in 1982 to reduce prison sentences for young offenders would be extended to cover adults; while no offender under 17 could be remanded or sentenced to prison.

The proposals are outlined in *A Safer Britain*, which also commits

the party to setting up an independent review body of lay people and judges to investigate suspected miscarriages of justice, such as the Guildford four case.

The body could either advise the Home Secretary to order a retrial or conduct an investigation of the whole case itself. There would be a "trigger mechanism" for sending cases to the review body to avoid it being "swamped" with unjustified applications.

The Labour document comes shortly before the government White Paper on criminal justice and there are considerable similarities between Labour proposals and those expected in the White Paper.

Mr Hattersley rejected suggestions that Labour was "soft on crime", saying: "The posture over crime is one of the reasons the crime rate has gone up. There is a feeling

on the Tory benches that the tougher you are in terms of sentencing the more the crime will fall. The evidence shows that that is wrong." All the talk about toughness had increased crime by diverting the Government from crime prevention.

The document says: "The Labour Party believes that prison should be used as a last resort for those convicted of serious offences and that there is a need to reduce both the number and length of prison sentences for most categories of offence."

Labour says custody should be imposed only to protect the public; when the offender is unwilling to respond to non-custodial penalties, and for offences so serious that a non-custodial penalty cannot be justified.

Turning to the prison population,

the document says Britain imprisons more people than any other country in Western Europe, at a cost of £288 a prisoner a week, compared with £18 a week to supervise them in the community.

The document says: "The Labour Party believes that prison should be used as a last resort for those convicted of serious offences and that there is a need to reduce both the number and length of prison sentences for most categories of offence."

Labour says custody should be imposed only to protect the public; when the offender is unwilling to respond to non-custodial penalties, and for offences so serious that a non-custodial penalty cannot be justified.

The new sentencing council would provide guidelines for a range of cases designed to ensure that the

courts hand out consistent penalties. At present the Court of Appeal produces guideline judgements only in a limited number of cases. Other proposed reforms include:

- A review of maximum penalties.
- A system of means-related fines.
- Ensuring that community service is used as an alternative to custody.
- Expanding the probation service.
- Reforming the bail process to reduce the number of people remanded in custody.
- Reviewing the system to see whether the court is the best setting for dealing with young offenders.
- Raising the maximum age of the juvenile court to 18.
- The document sets out a package of proposals to ensure that victims of crime are compensated and are kept at all stages of the justice process from the moment of reporting a crime.

Crime prevention the key to reducing prison population, says Hattersley

Labour reforms would lead to fewer jails

By Edward Gorman, Irish Affairs Correspondent

An internal inquiry by senior Irish police officers was under way last night after ballistic evidence showed extraordinary incompetence on the part of officers during an armed siege last week.

The siege at Athy, Co Kildare, came after an attempted bank robbery by an armed gang which had been under surveillance by a specially trained police unit since setting off from Dublin earlier in the day. During an ensuing gun battle one of the five robbers was killed and two injured, one seriously.

In response to mounting political pressure over the affair, Mr Ray Burke, Justice Minister, released a statement last night in which he confirmed that none of the robbers' weapons had been fired.

Mr Burke said it was a matter of deep regret that life was lost and injuries sustained during the attempted robbery.

"It is, however, an unfortunate fact of life that in today's circumstances Gardaí have to use weapons to counter the threat presented by armed gunmen on the streets."

● A call by a Roman Catholic bishop for an independent inquiry into the shooting of three men in Belfast by the Army last Saturday was rejected yesterday by Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Dr Cahal Daly, Bishop of Down and Connor, said the shootings had caused a "crisis of credibility" for the security forces in the eyes of the community. His comments came as John McNeill, the third man killed in the bungled Falls Road betting shop robbery, was buried in west Belfast after a funeral attended by about 100 mourners.

After the shooting, at the small square outside the Bank of Ireland, the Garda press office issued statements saying detectives had opened fire only after members of the gang started shooting.

Yesterday, however, it was disclosed that ballistic tests on police weapons and guns carried by the robbers showed the gang had not fired a shot during the episode. It appears that not only had the police opened fire without being shot at, but they had also wounded six people who were not members of the gang, three of whom were fellow officers.

For ordinary police this may be embarrassing; in this case the unit involved, which is usually armed with weapons including Uzi sub-machine guns and pump-action shotguns, is regarded as the best in Ireland.

The *Irish Times* said the unit was the Emergency Response Unit, part of the Security Task Force which is part of the Special Branch. It is apparently so secret that it has been no official confirmation that it exists.

The officers are the experts relied on to deal with hijackings and hostage situations. Apart from firearms skills, they are trained in negotiation techniques and are involved in security for embassies and government offices in Dublin.

During Ireland's presidency of the European Community they have an important part to play and are expected to be involved in security arrangements for the 12 Community foreign ministers who arrive in Dublin this weekend.

The Garda inquiry into the Athy incident is also expected to examine why the press office issued no less than five substantially different versions of what happened and

Young's question time



Lord Young of Graffham arrives at Westminster yesterday to answer questions from the Commons trade and industry committee over the sale of Rover Group to British Aerospace.

Drink driving

Refusal to give police wider powers criticized

By Ray Clancy and Richard Ford

The Home Secretary yesterday encouraged police to set up checkpoints on roads outside public houses and on the outskirts of towns and villages as part of efforts to crack down on drunken driving.

The decision by the Cabinet home affairs committee not to give police extra powers was seen as a victory for Mr Waddington and Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General. Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, supported wider powers.

Mr Peter Joslin, Chief Constable of Warwickshire and chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said he was disappointed by the decision because there was wide support for random testing among the public and ministers at the Department of Transport.

He said the decision was a setback. Polls in recent years have suggested that over 80 per cent of the public support some additional powers to prevent death and injury caused by drink drivers.

The decision was described

as "astonishing and cynical" by the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety. Mr Stephen Day, chairman of the council said: "It is a missed opportunity to save lives."

The decision by the Cabinet home affairs committee not to give police extra powers was seen as a victory for Mr Waddington and Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General. Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, supported wider powers.

Mr Graham Buxton, secretary of the Campaign Against Drinking and Driving, said: "The Government was going against the advice of professionals, politicians from all parties and consultation which showed 3,000 out of 3,400 respondents wanted a significant change in the law."

Under the Road Traffic Act 1972, police can stop a car at random but have to show "reasonable cause" to suspect a driver has been drinking before they breathalyse.

The Opposition condemned the decision, saying existing police power was not a substitute for random breath testing.

The decision was described

Chaos in courts may lead to delays

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Lord Chancellor faces mounting pressure from senior judges to delay his plans for moving many cases from the High Court to the county courts. Judges say the county courts are inadequately funded and staffed.

The state of the county courts, described by Lord Ackner as a "scandal", is now the biggest stumbling block to government plans to reform the court system.

So far the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, has stood firm on his proposals to devolve cases to the county courts in the Courts and Legal Services Bill. But senior judges and peers are expected to offer amendments preventing Lord Mackay from acting without the agreement of the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, who has said the court infrastructure is crumbling.

Yesterday, the Law Society reported instances of delays at the county courts gathered by more than 30 solicitors' firms around the country. An official said: "The most horrifying example comes from Swindon county court, where a solicitor was trying to obtain an injunction to protect a woman from a violent former boy friend. That took six weeks."

The Lord Chancellor has already received evidence that Hastings county court was said to be more than a month behind in dealing with post and that Wandsworth county court almost ran out of money for postage and was only able to answer letters that came with stamped reply envelopes.

Concern over the county courts has been fuelled by the Lord Chief Justice who said that "in one large complex (in London), 50 per cent of the staff have less than six months' experience", and that "supply of *The Times* has been cut off in most courts as a measure of economy".

The Lord Chancellor's Department said yesterday that there were problems for the courts this year with an expected 6 per cent increase in workload which was not foreseen. "We are well aware of the problem and are taking steps to improve matters."

CORRECTION

Emma Nicholson's article, "Now medical records go on the open market" (December 28), as edited, suggested that pharmacists were not "bound by the ethic of confidentiality". The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain issues a code of ethics to its members instructing them to respect confidentiality.

Under the Road Traffic Act 1972, police can stop a car at random but have to show "reasonable cause" to suspect a driver has been drinking before they breathalyse.

The decision was condemned

Beware risk of underclass, says Scarmen

By Charles Knevitt

Britain could develop a permanent underclass in which the young "feel so frustrated and so alienated from the rest of society that they see no future for themselves", Lord Scarmen said yesterday.

The Brixton riots in 1981 had shown the threat of an alienated section of the community. An underclass would develop if steps were not taken to prevent it, he said in London at the launch of the fifth annual Community Enterprise Scheme.

He had become aware of the importance of the effect of the built environment, especially housing, on people's lives, during the public inquiry into

the riots. There were no panaceas, however.

"A whole number — a myriad — of small enterprises, co-ordinated but with one purpose", could help to solve inner-city problems. The Community Enterprise Scheme helped to identify local leaders who enable communities to create their own environment.

It is sponsored by *The Times*, the Royal Institute of British Architects and Business in the Community. There are three new categories of award this year: for community architecture, community training and community business. Prize money has been increased to more than £30,000. The closing date for entries is March 7.

The Prince of Wales, patron

of the scheme, said in a statement read out by Lord Scarmen: "Local involvement by people is creating their own environment can make a substantial contribution to a more viable and sustainable future."

"Building communities requires commitment and confidence, tenacity and leadership. For information and entry forms contact: Robin Dean, Community Enterprise Scheme, RIBA, 64 Portland Place, London W1 4AD. Telephone 01-589 5533. Spectrum, page 13



Lord Scarmen (right) talking yesterday to Mr Rod Hackney, the community architect.

ship; but above all, a shared vision of what might be." He quoted the New Age writer, Theodore Roszak, from his book, *Where The Waste Land Ends*: "I can think of 40 reasons why none of these projects can possibly succeed and 40 different tones of wry cynicism in which to express my well-documented doubts."

"But I also know that it is more humanly beautiful to risk failure seeking for the hidden springs than to resign to the futurelessness of the waste-land. For the springs are there to be found."

Lord Scarmen added: "If enough of us act on these words, we will solve the problem of the underclass developing in our inner cities." The

document says Britain imprisons more people than any other country in Western Europe, at a cost of £288 a prisoner a week, compared with £18 a week to supervise them in the community.

The document says: "The Labour Party believes that prison should be used as a last resort for those convicted of serious offences and that there is a need to reduce both the number and length of prison sentences for most categories of offence."

Labour says custody should be imposed only to protect the public;

Electrician accused of manslaughter over shoddy wiring

By David Sapsted

An electrician yesterday went on trial for the manslaughter of a young father killed by an electric shock from a sink after a central heating system was wrongly wired.

The case against Stephen Holloway is believed to be the first in which allegations of poor workmanship have resulted in the Crown Prosecution Service bringing such a charge.

Mr Nicholas French, aged 23, died at his grandmother's home in High Halden, Kent, in May 1988 when he touched the steel sink as he stood on a slightly damp floor in stockinged feet. Mr Michael Worsley, QC, said for the prosecution that the shock was so strong that Mr French could not let go of the sink.

Mr Worsley told Maidstone Crown Court that Mr Holloway had undertaken the electrical work at Mrs Eva Hukins' home after the installation of oil-fired central heating just before Christmas, 1987.

His work was "so badly, negligently and, indeed, reck-

lessly" done that it resulted in Mr French's death. The crucial error, Mr Worsley said, was the fact that Mr Holloway had connected the live pin in the central heating programmer to the earth in the junction box which resulted, at times, in all the radiators and pipework in the house being live.

The problem was compounded by the fact that there was a faulty circuit-breaker — which was not Mr Holloway's fault — in the house's ageing electrical system.

Any competent electrician should have tested the circuit-breaker after the family complained about getting shocks from the system, Mr Worsley said. Mr Holloway had not done so, even though he had checked his work at least twice, once after a delivery driver had received such a severe shock that he had fallen off the oil storage tank.

Mr Worsley said Mr Holloway, self-employed as an electrician for more than 20 years after serving a five-year apprenticeship with a Surrey

firm, could be found guilty only if the jury found him responsible not only for a breach of the duty of care, but also of recklessness.

Mr Holloway, aged 42, of Goddington Park, Ashford, Kent, denies manslaughter.

Members of Mr French's family described the shocks they had received, and Mrs Hukins, aged 78, rejected suggestions from Mr Roger Titheridge, QC, for the defence, that she had experienced only a slight shock when she touched the draining board with a wet cloth. "They were more than tingles: they were shocks. They really made you jump," she said.

Her daughter, Mrs Carol French, said she had telephoned the central heating engineer after receiving a mild shock from one of the radiators but had been told the cause was static electricity.

Mr John Lilley, Mrs Hukins' son-in-law, said Mr Holloway had checked the system and told him there was nothing wrong with his work.

The case continues today.

Life for knife murders

A Dutchman who murdered his estranged wife and her parents on a weekend trip to England was given three life sentences at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Rene Hillebrand, aged 21, grimed as he was found guilty of the murders. In the public gallery, some relatives of the victims wept while others waved and clapped at the verdicts of the jury of five women and seven men. Judge

Lymberry, QC, told Hillebrand that he would have been sentenced to life imprisonment even if the jury had found him guilty of manslaughter. He said it would be for the Home Secretary to decide whether Hillebrand should serve his sentence in this country or in The Netherlands.

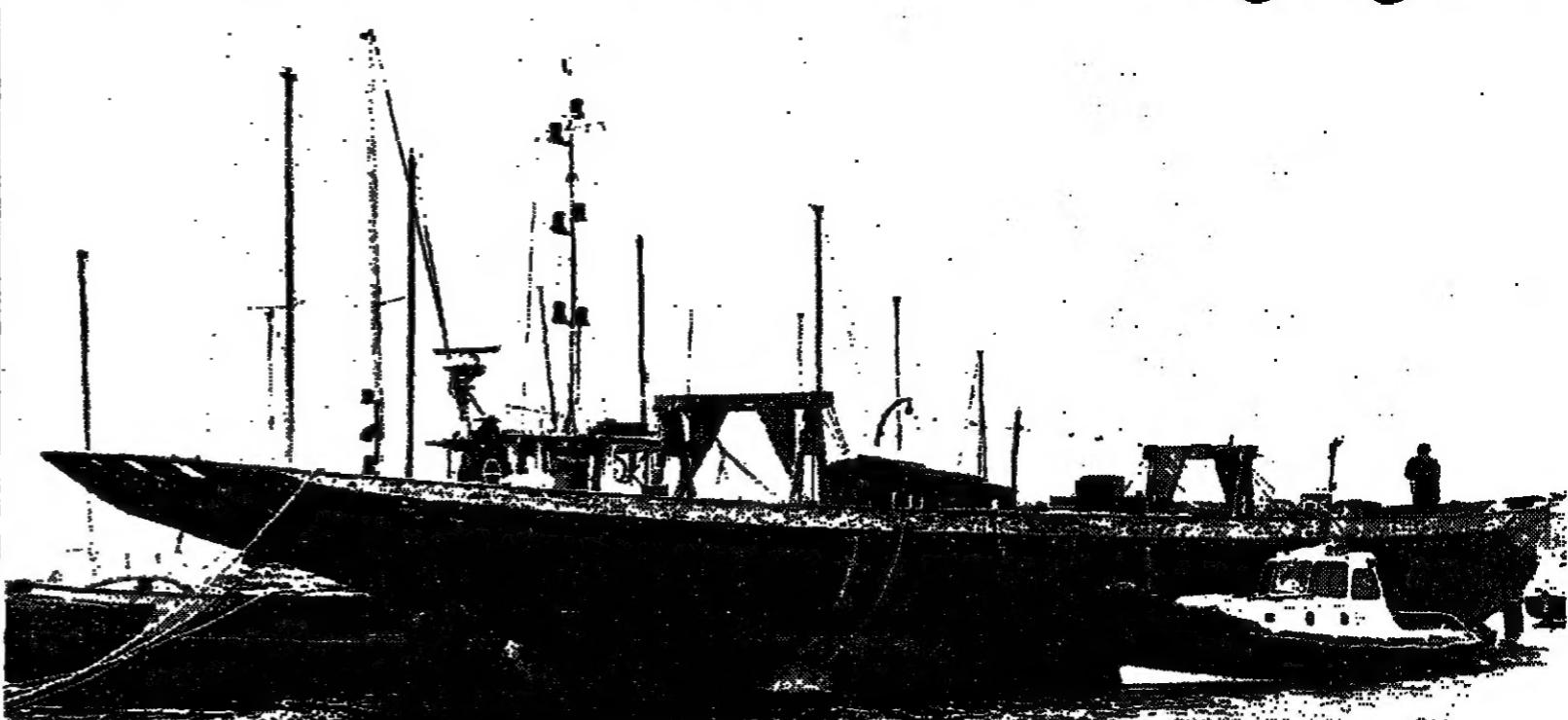
He told Hillebrand: "You have a severe personality disorder", and said he had no

doubt that in stressful circumstances he would continue to be a danger to the public.

Hillebrand repeatedly stabbed his 25-year-old wife, Dawn, and her parents, Alan and Margaret Sturgeon, in the kitchen of their detached bungalow in Whitehall Lane, Slade Green in south-east London. However, he claimed that the final death stabs were mercy killings and that he hugged Dawn as she died.

He told Hillebrand: "You have a severe personality disorder", and said he had no

New life ahead for British racing legend



Below, Lalworth in her heyday off Cowes in 1930; above, being towed from Hamble Yard for restoration at Gosport at the start of a new life.

'Freak' yacht saved from anonymity on a mud bank

Lalworth, the world's biggest gaff cutter, was last weekend floated off the mud berth on which she has languished for the past three years to prepare for a new lease of life. She will undergo a two-year refit at the Gosport yard of Camper and Nicholson before heading to a life of private cruising in the Mediterranean and Caribbean for foreign owners.

The 120-foot racing yacht, originally named Terpsichore, was built in 1920 for £30,000. Because of the post-war wood shortage, she was the first of her class to be fitted with a steel mast and frame, although her planking was of mahogany. In ten years of competitive sailing, the yacht, renamed Lalworth, won 114 out of 210 starts, and was the only British racing yacht to beat the Americas Cup challenger Shamrock V.

Her legendary success inspired enthusiasts such as King George V and Sir Thomas Lipton, the tea magnate, to mount increasingly ambitious challenges and to make improvements to their own boats which were instrumental to the evolution of the J-class yachts. In 1937, she was refitted by her owner, Carl Bensix, the chocolatier, and converted into a two-mast ketch.

Lalworth was damaged during the Second World War and, although repaired, never sailed again. In 1947, Mr Clement Lucas, her new owner, even toyed with the idea of scrapping her hull and using her accommodation in the refurbishment of his other yacht. He was dissuaded, and his wife lived on the boat, moored on the bank of the River Hamble, Hampshire, until 1987.

Renovation work is expected to take around two years, and will include replacing 40 per cent of her hull planking, and building a new 180-foot mast. Her interior mahogany paneling and silver fittings are in very good condition. "She's a monstrous freak," Mr William Collier, Camper and Nicholson's vintage yacht broker, said. "But they don't make them like that anymore, and I was determined to save her."

25p fine for Tube smoker 'derisory'

By Ray Clancy

The police and London Underground management yesterday criticized the decision by a magistrate to fine a man caught smoking on the Tube a "derisory" 25p.

The fine imposed by Miss Audrey Jennings, a stipendiary magistrate at Wells Street court, was described as a "kick in the teeth" for staff trying to maintain high safety standards since 31 people died in the King's Cross fire in November, 1987.

The cost-of-living fine was imposed on Mr Noel Daly, aged 36, of Tooting, south London, on Tuesday. He was fined in his absence, under the London Underground by-law 20 which states that smoking is prohibited.

Mr Daly was arrested last April at Baker Street station after a policeman saw him put a cigarette behind his back. According to London Underground figures, more than 100 people have been convicted in the past two years of illegal smoking and faced fines ranging from 25p to £100, the maximum is £200.

"This 25p fine is extremely derisory. It is a kick in the teeth for our staff who are working extremely hard to uphold the law. It is undermining their efforts at a time when they are under particular pressure to maintain standards," Mr Denis Tumicoff, managing director of London Underground, said.

Inspector John Bryant, of British Transport Police, said there was nothing to stop magistrates imposing "such derisory, disgusting and totally irresponsible fines". "We cannot appeal against this conviction because the defendant was charged under a by-law and therefore does not have a criminal conviction. The fine really is a joke."

Mr Daly was reported to have said it was a friend who was smoking and that he was arrested after refusing police instructions to stay on the train.

Miss Jennings said she was not able to discuss the case. The Crown Prosecution Service, which brought the prosecution after the case was handed over by British Transport Police, also refused to comment.

• London Regional Transport yesterday agreed to judgement being entered against it on the issue of liability in the cases of one victim and a seriously injured survivor of the King's Cross fire.

The amount of damages to be paid to Mr Ron Lipsier, aged 32, a musician, and the family of Mr John St. Prix, who died in the fire, will be decided at a later date, a private hearing in the High Court was told.

Unknown virus family believed to cause 'mad cow' diseases

Possible BSE human link 'must be answered'

The Government tried yesterday to persuade Brussels to lift the German ban on British beef because of "mad cow" disease as British scientists launched a £12 million investigation. Thomson Prentice and Pearce Wright report.

The scientists believe that in spite of the Government's attitude that there is no evidence that people can contract bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) or "mad cow" disease, a "guilty until proven innocent" approach should be adopted by researchers.

The triangle of incurable disorders is made up of BSE, scrapie in sheep and Creutzfeld-Jacob disease, which affects one person in a million in

Britain. A family of viruses, yet to be identified, is believed to cause all three.

The Government announced last week a £12 million research programme into BSE after an expert report urged investigations into the origins of the disease.

An editorial in the scientific journal *Nature* today welcomes the funding but says the "chilling" question of whether humans are at risk by consum-

ing meat from infected cattle must be answered. What is to be made of an infectious agent yet to be characterized?"

Some parallels with AIDS can be drawn because it is caused by a virus with a latency of up to 15 years. Creutzfeld-Jacob disease, BSE and scrapie are brain conditions which progress slowly after infection.

BSE was only discovered in November 1986 after cattle were fed meal containing tis-

sue from sheep infected with scrapie. It is generally accepted that the conditions are caused by the same infective agent. Similarities between scrapie, which affects 30 per cent of sheep flocks in Britain, and BSE are being investigated by a neuropathology unit at the Institute of Animal Health, Edinburgh.

There have been no more than about 50 cases a year of Creutzfeld-Jacob disease since it was diagnosed in 1920. Scientists are trying to find whether there has been a change in incidence in recent years. If there is a link with BSE, an increase in CJD should become

apparent some years after the cattle disease is recognized.

Dr Hugh Fraser, one of the

researchers, said yesterday: "I believe the risk is remote but it is necessary to anticipate the worst scenario. In AIDS, HIV is known to be the cause. No equivalent cause has been found in scrapie or BSE."

• A report prepared for the European Community veterinary committee, which includes West German specialists, claims that BSE is not a danger to public health. Mr Keith Meldrum, head of Britain's veterinary service, said there was no justification for the West German ban.

Dr Fraser

had been day-dreaming

about

holidays

in the sun

after her

"fantastic luck",

but decided to use the money

to develop her new business.

She

opened

"Practical

Presses"

in Perth nine

months ago.

The shop sells a

variety

of aids

for the

disabled,

including

left-handed

scissors

and large-button

telephones.

Now Mrs Henderson will

be able to expand her stock.

"There is a buyers'

fair

coming up in Birmingham at

the beginning of February,"

she said.

£4,000 to develop new shop

The winner of yesterday's £4,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was Mrs Janet Henderson, of St Andrews, Fife, Scotland.

Mrs Henderson said she had been day-dreaming about holidays in the sun after her "fantastic luck", but decided to use the money to develop her new business. She opened "Practical Presses" in Perth nine months ago. The shop sells a variety of aids for the disabled, including left-handed scissors and large-button telephones.

Now Mrs Henderson will be able to expand her stock.

"There is a buyers' fair coming up in Birmingham at the beginning of February," she said.



Mrs Henderson: Money to help her business.

Kidney seller is not a criminal, professor says

By John Young

It was not criminal to accept payment for donating a kidney, a former professor of medicine told a General Medical Council disciplinary hearing yesterday.

Professor Geoffrey Thomas, who held the chair of obstetrics and gynaecology at Madras University in India, said in a statement that the donor "has for sale what another person not only desires but actually needs". The patient can afford to pay for the kidney — indeed he can pay the surgeon and the hospital and does so however he obtains the kidney, either by paying from his

own pocket or through the National Health Service through his taxes." It is no crime to need money and it is no crime to raise it by selling what one has to offer."

His statement was read by Professor Geoffrey Alderman, professor of politics and contemporary history at Holloway and Bedford College, London University. He was giving evidence in defence of Dr Raymond Crockett, one of three doctors charged with serious professional misconduct in relation to the alleged sale of kidneys for transplant. The other two are Mr Michael Bewick, a transplant surgeon, and Mr Michael Joyce, a urologist. Professor Alderman

produced a statement, which he said had been sent to him after a letter of his appeared in *The Times* on February 4 last year. The statement, by Professor Thomas, was accepted as evidence by the GMC's professional conduct committee.

In his statement, made before legislation outlawing the sale of human organs was passed last year, Professor Thomas said that a man accepting a fee for his kidney should not be branded as a criminal. "Talk of morals in this context is inappropriate. Is the surgeon the worse off for removing the kidney of a healthy man?" Professor Thomas asks.

"Personally I should not care to do it, but nobody condemns vasectomy performed for the sake of convenience."

Professor Alderman told the hearing yesterday that in his view no monetary value could be placed on a kidney. The giving of a kidney was itself an act of altruism, regardless of whether any money changed hands.

Mr Anthony Arlidge, QC, for Dr Crockett, said the hearing had been told earlier of a clinic in India where a donor was paid a so-called "salarium", usually £1,000. "Would you see any objection to that being done in India?" he asked Professor Alderman. "None at all," Professor

Alderman replied. Would he see any objection to a similar practice in Britain in cases where a kidney might not be readily available? No was the answer.

Professor Alderman said he saw nothing unethical if a poor person chose to better his position by making an organ available to a rich person.

Earlier, Dr Mohammed Al Kutoubi told the hearing that Mr Ahmet Koc, a Turkish donor who claimed that his kidney was removed without his knowledge or consent had in fact received a full explanation before the operation.

The hearing continues today.

Thatcher's beat

PAUL WALTERS



Mr Denis Thatcher sports a police motorcycle's helmet in Bristol yesterday to promote the Crime Stoppers campaign.

Call for legislation opposed

Cross-ownership of media 'no threat to competition'

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Ownership of satellite television channels by a newspaper proprietor poses no threat to media diversity or competition, according to a book by a leading free-market economist.

School play fields pose safety risk to pupils, survey says

By David Tyler, Education Editor

Many school gyms and playing fields are badly maintained and could even threaten the safety of pupils, according to a report from the schools' inspectors published yesterday.

An inspection of 16 secondary schools in the South-west and the North of England in 1988 and 1989 found that the "maintenance of work areas on school sites was unsatisfactory in several ways".

The inspectors report: "Deficiencies ranged from fundamental problems such as badly drained playing fields and a buckled gymnasium floor to the potential safety hazards of broken stop (chain link) fencing and poorly prepared jumping pits."

Changing rooms were "sometimes dowdy and unwelcoming places". Cleaning was generally satisfactory but teachers sometimes carried out extra cleaning themselves, particularly if the facilities were heavily used outside normal working hours.

The report says that good conditions helped to maintain good teaching standards. "Where conditions were favourable with well-maintained and clean work areas the teaching and learning were considerably enhanced."

Teachers, however, made the best of what was available:

"Despite the constraints of poor maintenance and demands being made on indoor accommodation for examinations and school productions, the facilities were being used effectively."

The inspectors say that teachers sometimes had to find extra space for themselves. One disused space, for example, was converted into an area for fitness training while at another school cupboards were built to increase the storage capacity of a sports broom.

The report also says that schools should consider boys and girls playing competitive sports together. Mixed classes were run successfully in some schools "with pupils showing maturity during co-operative group activities".

They add: "High quality competition was also demonstrated in basketball and hockey. Where skill is the determining factor and where preparation has been equally rigorous for both sexes, mixed competitions are a realistic possibility."

The schools were chosen to "exemplify" good practice but no one school produced high standards in all respects. Of the 143 lessons observed, 46 per cent were judged to be very good with some outstanding features or good with no significant shortcomings.

A Survey of Work in Physical Education in 16 Secondary Schools (Department of Education and Science, Honey Pot Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire HA1 1AZ; £10).

36 per cent were satisfactory and a further 18 per cent fell short of a desirable standard.

• Governors at a school who suspended two Muslim girls for wearing traditional head-scarves last night hinted at a compromise to defuse the growing controversy over their decision (Douglas Broome writes).

Fatima Alvi, aged 15, and her sister Aisah, aged 14, have been suspended from Altrincham Girls Grammar School, Trafford, Greater Manchester, since the start of term for refusing to remove their Islamic head-scarves.

The school has said the headscarves are a safety hazard and banned by school uniform rules.

The girl's father, Dr Abdur Rab Alvi, a consultant ophthalmologist, says the scarves are required by their religion. He has lodged a formal complaint with the Commission for Racial Equality.

Mr Roy Godwin, deputy chairman of Trafford Borough Council and a governor at the school, said that the governing body would reconsider its decision at a meeting next Tuesday.

Children at Birtley East primary school, near Gateshead, raised a £40 bank loan,

Pupils discover a taste for enterprise

TED BATH

Small businesses are about to spring up all over the country as primary school children launch commercial enterprises (David Tyler writes).

A nationwide scheme was announced yesterday by Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to encourage children as young as five to set up their own companies as part of the National Curriculum.

The Primary School Project has been successfully run by Durham University Business School in Gateshead and Co Durham with £200,000 from Marks & Spencer and will be available to schools throughout England and Wales.

Pupils aged five to 11 will use comic-strip instruction books to learn how to draw up a business plan, borrow money from banks to fund their ideas, carry out market research among potential customers, create the best image for products or services, and market and sell at the right price.

The organisers emphasise that schemes do not necessarily have to make a profit and point to green enterprises such as designing and developing a nature reserve or setting up a school recycling plant, or charitable projects, including a red-nose day for Comic Relief.

A class of nine-year-olds at Bill Quay school, Gateshead, raised £40 and started its own company, Classy Catering.

The children opened a school sweet shop and provided a buffet lunch for the Mayor of Gateshead and 24 guests. About £250 passed through the account and a final profit of £50 was made. Most will be spent on a planetarium visit.

Children at Birtley East primary school, near Gateshead, raised a £40 bank loan,



Penny-wise: Children from Birtley East primary school sample their toffee at the national launch of the enterprise project.

set up a school sweet factory and opened a tuck shop. Mr Alan Satheren, the head teacher, said: "A traditional north-eastern delicacy proved to be the pupils' choice. 'Cinder toffee was the most popular sweet and they made a right killing."

He said the project had improved the children's confidence. The tuck shop is still running, but is now selling as many apples as sweets.

Mr MacGregor said the scheme would help to enhance the growing links between schools and industry. He said: "If education fails to prepare

£2.5m theatre deficit forecast

RSC cuts productions and sheds 60 actors

By Simon Tait, Arts Correspondent

The Royal Shakespeare Company is presenting its thinnest season since the 1970s with fewer plays and a company reduced by a third.

There will be only 19 productions this year, compared with 27 last year and 32 in 1988. The company's accumulated deficit, to be announced in March, is likely to be £1 million a year.

The company is meeting half the £700,000 cost of *Children of Eden*, a co-production at the Barbican for next Christmas. "It's a 'green' show," Mr Hands said. "It's based on the Book of Genesis and in a time before people started killing each other."

The director in John Caird, co-director of *Les Misérables*, with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, who created *Godspell*, the award-winning musical.

There is also to be a new version of Lionel Bart's 1970s musical *Blitz*, based on the original music and lyrics but with a new book by Tony Merchant. The production, part of the Barbican repertoire from September, celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of the Blitz in which the buildings on the Barbican site were destroyed.

Another successful RSC musical, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, is to have a UK and international tour this year, while remaining in production in the West End.

The classics will play a predominant role in the slimmed down programme. There are to be six new Shakespeare productions at the main RSC house in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Mr Terry Hands: "We are not out of the woods yet." Mr Richard Luce: Won 12 per cent more for the arts.

Clandestine approaches through literary circles and his underground network were made before the collapse of the Communist regime, but with little success.

The Arts Council said: "We have been able to make a formal invitation now, and it is being considered."

The three-day conference, to be held in Glasgow, European City of Culture for 1990, will examine the implications of the single European market on the arts.

Others taking part include Miss Melina Mercouri, the actress and former Greek arts minister; Lord Carrington, former Foreign Secretary; and Sir Richard Attenborough, the film director.

Medical complaint hearings

Ban on paid lawyers a 'farce'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The ban on paid lawyers at the hearing of complaints about doctors, dentists and other medical practitioners such as opticians is a "farce", the Council on Tribunals says in its annual report published yesterday.

The council says that because of the ban, such proceedings are "unsatisfactory and artificial". In its report for 1988-89, it calls for the ban to be lifted and for free legal representation to be extended to complainants who cannot afford to pay.

The council has sought for some time to persuade the Government that change is needed in the complaints procedures for medical practitioners.

However, it has not had

sufficient impact. In other tribunals, there is normally no restriction on who can act as a representative, the council says. Paid lawyers are banned from appearing before the service committees of the family practitioner committees, which deal with complaints about medical practitioners.

This puts complainants at a disadvantage, compared with doctors, it says. Doctors, who are typically more articulate than complainants, usually have expert assistance at hearings while quite often the complainants have none.

The report says: "It should not be necessary or possible to perpetuate the present farce in which a party is prompted to a recommendation made after a service committee hearing. It could

take another six weeks for a decision by the family practitioner committee.

The council calls on the Government to take a fresh look at the complaints procedure. Even with changes proposed by the Government, the procedure will still be weighted too greatly in favour of the practitioner, it says.

The council also calls for improvements in procedures for traffic commissioners, who license public service and goods vehicles. There are inconsistencies in the way they are appointed, it says. Qualifications are imprecise, yet deputy traffic commissioners alone have a legal background.

Council on Tribunals' Annual Report for 1988-89 (Stationery Office, Cm 113; £7.90)

Women doctors try self defence

By Mark Souster

Women doctors training to be general practitioners have taken a self-defence course to protect themselves on house calls. They are worried about possible attacks, particularly at night, from drug addicts, violent patients and rapists.

During the two-day course, held last weekend, the women were taught basic martial arts techniques. It was organized by Dr Barbara Wesby, a GF trainee based in London, after two male doctors were attacked while on calls.

Dr Wesby, aged 40, editor of the *Women in Medicine* newsletter, said: "I suddenly thought about how I would cope on a dark, seedy estate at night. GPs now seem to be concerned about self-defence — they are certainly concerned about going out on night visits."

The British Medical Association attempted to tackle the problem of violence against doctors last year when, with the Association of Chief Police Officers, it issued a set of guidelines to protect GPs and their staff from violence. It came in response to disturbing signs of increasing violence against family doctors.

A survey by the Cambridge Family Practitioner Committee showed that 40 per cent of GPs had experienced violence and another in Birmingham showed that 91 per cent suffered verbal abuse.

The self-defence course was designed to show that GPs do not have to be Olympic standard sprinters or karate black belts to defend themselves against the unexpected.

Dr Wesby is one of several of the self-defence enthusiasts who admit they have been faced with a patient who suddenly became violent.

Dr Rachel Lambert, a trainee from Surrey, said she successfully diffused a potentially violent situation while visiting a mentally ill male patient in his remote caravan.

She said: "I coped with it and managed to avoid physical violence by talking him out of it."

Her increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to

go on night visits."

He said the increase in real terms for 1990 was 3.3 per cent, or £179,000, the cost of one big new production.

"If this increased funding is

the beginning of a new life in the arts, then it's wonderful. If it's just a one-off, we'll be back to square one. We still have to



Nurse recruitment drive aims to alter 'illiberal' ethos

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A campaign to attract 85,000 former nurses back to work by changing "illiberal and inflexible" management attitudes was launched by the Royal College of Nursing yesterday.

The project, backed by cash from both the private and public sectors, aims at defusing the "demographic time bomb" of a decline in school leavers, who now account for more than 30 per cent of nursing recruits.

"In all the discussions going on about the health service I am amazed how little reference is made to the desperate current shortage of nurses in London and the South-east and the impending worsening shortage that will affect the whole country," Miss Christine Hancock, the college's general secretary, said. "Unless we take action now, the effects on staffing will be disastrous."

The project includes an Open College television course starting next summer to update the skills of would-be returners, to which the Department of Health is contributing £100,000. However, initially the campaign

will be targeted on managers to convince them of the need to attract mature nurses back.

The college is holding a series of roadshows over the coming months to provide a forum for managers and educators to consider nurse staffing difficulties and draw up local strategies.

The roadshows will be backed by four "trigger" videos, which portray examples of intransigent, traditional attitudes from managers and other health service staff.

"There is a major problem of resentful attitudes both in management and in existing nursing staff if there is an attempt to recruit back part-time staff," Miss Hancock said. "The project sets out to alter a management ethos, which at its illiberal and inflexible worst is a positive deterrent to nurses returning."

Miss Hancock said that an estimated 85,000 nurses could be encouraged to return, particularly if flexible or part-time work was offered. Last year the college criticized a recruitment campaign held by the Department of Health as a waste of money as it was targeted at young people

entering nursing for the first time. Last night, Mrs Anne Poole, chief nursing officer at the Department of Health, backed the new initiative.

The department's campaign to recruit new people had been successful, but it was also imperative to attract back to nursing those who had previously worked in the profession, she said.

Under the Open College course would-be returners can choose their time to study and where they wish to do clinical practice. The course, backed by videos and workbooks, involves 150 hours' study time, of which 75 should be spent on supervised clinical practice.

Statistics from the college show that the number of entrants to nursing is already declining as those entering training has dropped. In 1988-89 there were 27,868 new recruits, a fall of 20 per cent over four years.

An estimated 30,000 nurses leave the NHS every year, most of them for career breaks rather than other employment. There are now more qualified nurses outside the NHS than in it.

Countryside development

Housing land glut is claimed

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The curse of development hangs over more areas of English countryside than is necessary because of an oversupply of land for housing, the Council for the Protection of Rural England claims today.

The council, responding to the Government's draft guidance on housing planning policy published last October, says in a report that the allocation of land for housing development above the levels agreed in official plans is a key threat to countryside protection; yet the Government's guidance "is written as if there were land shortages".

Explaining the threat, Mr Tony Burton, the council's planning officer, said the draft guidance was wrong in emphasizing that local authorities should not create shortages of housing land.

"There is clear evidence that developers' fears on this front are unfounded. CPRE's analysis shows that the real problem lies in too much land being allocated, not too little."

He welcomed the Government's recent expressions of support for the planning system, but said that to defuse the public controversy over housing development in the countryside local authorities must be able to keep development within agreed guidelines.

"They must be given the confidence and ability to control the rate of release of land for development, to ensure that agreed building levels are not overshot."

The council wants the Government to give detailed advice to local authorities,

empowering them to delay the identification of land for development. In addition, it wants them to control the rate at which it is developed, and to refuse planning permission, even on allocated sites in sensitive areas subject to high development pressure.

It accepts that some new housing development is both necessary and desirable and agrees that greenfield sites will play a part in satisfying requirements, but argues that the objective of the Government's guidance should be to achieve the necessary development with minimum damage to the countryside and maximum advantage to the localities concerned.

The County Planning Officers' Society has said there is a substantial surplus of land identified for housing in the next five years.

• The elderly are being offered grants of £1,000 to spruce up their homes under a new scheme aimed at persuading them to "stay put".

They will also be given special help in deciding what work needs to be done, choosing a good builder, and support during and after the building work.

The idea behind the pilot scheme being run by Sheffield City Council in partnership with the Yorkshire Metropolitan Housing Association, is to encourage old people to keep their homes by providing more home comforts.

The scheme is to be launched in the city's Burngreave and Grimethorpe, areas where there are 6,000 old houses.

Spitfire's engine failed before crash

By Ray Clancy

Mr Charles Church, who died when his restored Spitfire crashed into a field, fought to keep control of the aircraft as it suffered engine failure, an inquest heard yesterday.

He made two mayday calls and requested an emergency landing at nearby Blackbushe airfield, but the plane plummeted to the ground and burst into flames. Mr Church, aged 46, a millionaire property developer, of Micheldever, Hampshire, died from multiple injuries. His body was so badly burnt that it had to be identified from dental records.

Witnesses told the inquest, at Hartley Wintney, Hampshire, that the engine sound was odd just before the crash last July. Mr David



Mr Church: Body was badly burnt after crash.

Dougan, a British Airways aircraft engineer who lived near the crash scene, said he had heard the Spitfire earlier in the day as it was being flown to Dunsfold airshow.

"When I first heard the plane go over my garden, the engine sounded beautiful, but when I heard it in the evening it sounded really rough. The engine noise was faltering, catching, falling and then catching. When you hear that noise you know something is badly wrong."

Another eyewitness, Mr Arnold Jones, said he heard the plane's propeller stop. "The pilot banked violently to the left and went out of view. Then I saw a pall of black smoke," he told the inquest.

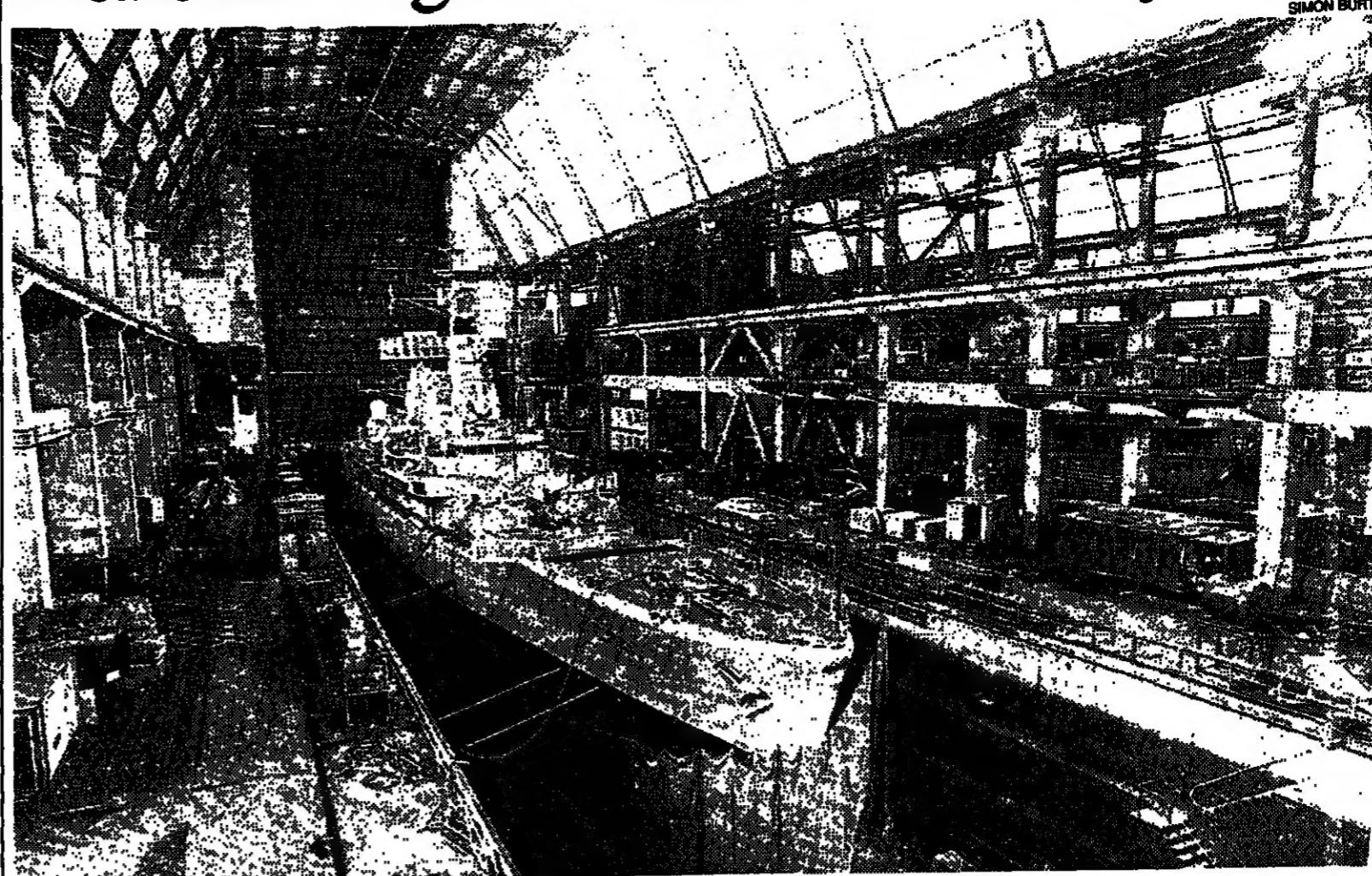
Mr Richard Melton, the chief engineer for Charles Church Spitfires, said the recently restored mark 5 Spitfire had been air-tested by two RAF pilots, one of whom had flown the plane that morning.

However, Mr Stuart Culling, a senior air accidents inspector, told the inquest the plane had suffered crankshaft failure. It had not been possible to determine if the stress began before or after the last engine overhaul.

A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

Refit for frigate in all-weather dry dock

By Simon Burt



HMS Dame, the 2,600-tonne Leander class frigate, is undergoing a refit in the covered complex operated by Devonport Management Ltd, which won a seven-year contract to manage the Royal Navy dockyard there in 1987. The complex contains three parallel dry docks, each big enough to hold the Navy's new

"stretched" frigates, which are more than 130 metres long (Libby Jukes writes). Dame, 113 metres long and 12.5 metres wide, was completed in 1967. The Leander class was then the biggest frigate built for the Navy since the Second World War. Powered by two sets of steam turbine engines

generating 30,000 shaft horse power, she is capable of more than 30 knots. Dame normally carries a crew of 230. Her equipment includes a Lynx helicopter, Exocet and Seasat missile systems and anti-submarine torpedoes. The Ministry of Defence said the refit was expected to take 14 months.

IF YOU ARE
ABOUT TO MOVE
YOU WANT A
MORTGAGE RATE
THAT ISN'T.

13.25%
FIXED
(14.2%)

APR

This rate is fixed for two years with an arrangement fee of £100, so drop into your local branch today, or call 0800 400450 for details, as funds are limited.

ALLIANCE + LEICESTER

YOU GET A SMARTER INVESTOR AT THE ALLIANCE & LEICESTER.

WRITTEN DETAILS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. LOANS SUBJECT TO STATUS AND VALUATION AND SECURITY IS REQUIRED

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER BUILDING SOCIETY, HOVE ADMINISTRATION, HOVE PARK, HOVE, EAST SUSSEX BN3 7AZ.

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER BUILDING SOCIETY.

Apology awaiting Romanian children

From Christopher Walker
Bucharest

When pupils return to the snow-covered Secondary School Number 26 in Bucharest today for the first time since the December revolution, they will find the syllabus transformed, the grey walls bare of Communist propaganda and the teachers waiting to give them a public apology.

"We intend to ask forgiveness for the way that we misled them all in our teaching under Ceausescu. We realize that the schools did much to lead to the general degeneration of society. Virtually everything we taught was deformed," explained Mrs Finea Popescu, the headmistress.

She added: "We sincerely hope they will accept our apology."

As final preparations were being made for the new term at the school yesterday, the staff was frantically tearing down the compulsory, idealized portraits of the late dictator from the front of every textbook.

Also being ripped out were the pages in some books containing the now despised "Hymn of the Socialist Republic of Romania". One of its turgid verses says: "Today the party unites us, On the Romanian plain, plane. Socialism is gaining strength."

By the act of our enthusiasm.

Many of the walls in the three-storey building are empty.

Scores of portraits of the dictator have been removed, along with the Communist propaganda posters containing falsified production figures and other mythical statistics, far removed from Romania's realities.

"There has been no time to get new books, so we are just tearing out all the awful portraits of him which had to appear by law in the front of every book. Some of the history books and Romanian language texts containing his words, we are throwing away altogether," Mrs Popescu explained.

When Ceausescu's huge portrait dominated the entrance hall there is now a large victory sign and a framed picture of a paper printed in the early days of the uprising, showing much of the human carnage. "That is why we mourn," is



Professor Richard Crampton, expert in East European History at the University of Kent in Canterbury, with a large collection of books.

the caption written across one particularly grim photograph of the dead.

Teachers' working hours have been cut from 24 to 18 hours a week and large sections of the modern history syllabus removed. The course on Romania's constitution has been abolished and replaced by one called "Democracy".

The atmosphere is so different. At last we feel free to look each other in the face and know we will be teaching the truth, not lies," said Miss Florescu Mihala, a physics teacher who has spent the Christmas vacation replacing the propaganda on her class-

room walls with portraits of old kings, Steven the Great and Michael the Brave, including flowers and quotations from poets.

"Every piece of Communist thought control has been removed, as has every reminder of the terrible tyrant who some of our own children helped to overthrow," she added, pointing proudly to the empty space above her battered desk where the mandatory classroom portrait of Ceausescu used to be.

Another teacher explained that the first portraits of the tyrant had been taken from such an angle that he appeared to have only one ear. Foreign languages will now be taught to much younger children and English will replace Russian where qualified teachers are available.

That led to a vicious underground whispering campaign about his alleged deformities, which after it was relayed to him by his spies, resulted in a second portrait being issued showing both ears in place.

Apart from history, the subject most affected by the revolutionary changes are foreign languages, which were detested by Ceausescu. He never allowed textbooks on them to refer to the countries whose language was being taught.

Foreign languages will now be taught to much younger children and English will replace Russian where qualified teachers are available.

British academics have joined forces to replace the books that were destroyed. An appeal in the press resulted in tens of thousands of books coming in from private individuals. The academics will also approach publishers and distributors for donations.

Pupils show concern

Bucharest — A touching example of British solidarity with the Romanians is the pile of letters written to Romanian schoolchildren by pupils from three primary schools in Berkshire who watched the traumatic events of December on television (Christopher Walker writes).

"I am handing the letters to a school in Bucharest so that the children can see how their contemporaries in the West were affected by what happened," said Mrs Margaret Abbey, a Berkshire teacher. "I have light brown hair ..."

Executions win mass support in Bucharest poll

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

The people of Bucharest have expressed overwhelming support for the summary trial and execution of the Ceausescus and massive opposition to the continued existence of the Communist Party in the first opinion poll carried out since the Romanian revolution.

By contrast, the military gained almost total support and Romanian television's outstanding performance during the crucial days of fighting was rewarded with a huge vote of confidence.

The poll was carried out in the streets of the capital about a week ago by the French organization BVA, using Romanian interviewers.

While the opinions it reflects do not take account of the turbulent events in Bucharest over the past few days, the strength of feeling on vital issues among those questioned undoubtedly provides what BVA describes as a valid "photograph of the state of affairs".

As the organizers note, "don't know" were virtually absent. The unanimity of views about the Army, trusted by 97 per cent, and the reformed state television service, favourably rated by 89 per cent, is considered particularly impressive.

The prospects for a return of the monarchy in Romania, take a considerable knock. Only 30 per cent of respondents had a good opinion of the former King Michael, most of them supporters of the National Peasants' Party, and the largest single group in the over-65 age bracket.

Among young people, by contrast, the proportion of critics of the former monarch approached 50 per cent, with hostility particularly evident among students.

With almost 84 per cent of those questioned unhesitatingly in favour of the execution of Nicolai and Elena Ceausescu, the interim government's decision to think again about abolition of the death penalty makes good sense politically.

On the other hand, the bitter hostility towards the dissident Mr Doina Cornea.

Solidarity vows to purge apparatchiks

Warsaw (Reuter) — Solidarity yesterday announced a new offensive to purge the remnants of communist power in Poland, saying it had to speed up democratic change after "explosions of freedom" in neighbouring countries.

Mr Bronislaw Geremek, the Solidarity parliamentary leader, said communist "nomenklatura" office holders appointed for their party loyalty were obstructing reforms and stealing state property, and that it was time to purge them from the economy and state administration.

"The personnel set up in the main structures of power has changed very little," he wrote in a keynote article in the government daily *Rzeczpospolita*. "The moment has come when it is indispensable

to speed up change, to speed up history again."

He made the proposal 10 days before the communists open a special congress at which they will dissolve and form a new left-wing party.

It also coincided with a miners' strike in southern Poland — the first sign that tough anti-inflationary policies launched by the Solidarity Government on January 1 may be challenged by powerful sections of the workforce that traditionally support Solidarity.

Mr Geremek proposed a basic political reform schedule for 1990, saying a democratic constitution planned for 1991 should be prepared this year and possibly put to a referendum.

The first post-war demo-

cratic elections of independent local government bodies, which are scheduled for June, should be brought forward.

"It is precisely local council elections which can become a huge instrument in crushing

Peking (Reuter) — The Communist authorities in Mongolia have bowed to mounting public pressure and removed one of two hated statues of Stalin standing in the capital, Ulan Bator, residents said yesterday. The statue was outside an army officers' building. The remaining statue is outside the national library.

the nomenklatura system at all levels of power, shattering local cliques and bringing social groups into public life." Mr Geremek gave a veiled

hint that the purge could even affect the communist President, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, whose election last year was presented as guaranteeing stability as Poland switched to democracy.

"In 1989 we got freedom and stability," Mr Geremek wrote. "Now there is a question: is there not too much stability and too little freedom?" The appointment in neighbouring Czechoslovakia of Mr Vaclav Havel, the former dissident, as President has attracted considerable attention in Poland, where Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, is known to want to become President.

General Jaruzelski, who imposed martial law in 1981 in an attempt to crush Solidarity and consolidate communist rule, is considered unlikely to run if a new constitution introduces direct presidential elections.

The Solidarity daily, *Gazeta Wyborcza*, said that Mr Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the Prime Minister, would ask Parliament today to bring forward the local elections to late March or early April.

A key political event then could also be useful for the Government in deflecting public disquiet. It expects the spring to be a make-or-break time when it could face popular unrest because of its economic policies. This week's strike at five southern coal-mines employing 35,000 men is the first sign of such a possibility, with workers demanding pay rises in defiance of a wages clampdown.

East Germany sacks deputy prosecutor

East Berlin (Reuter) — East Germany's deputy Prosecutor-General has been dismissed for incompetence and the head of the Supreme Court has resigned, the official news agency ADN said yesterday.

The Council of State dismissed Herr Hartmut Harrlach, the deputy prosecutor, for "neglect in office" and providing poor information to parliamentary investigative bodies. It did not specify that the investigations, but they clearly involved cases of corruption and abuse of power by the deposed Stalinist leadership.

Herr Harrlach's former superior, Herr Guenter Wendland, resigned in December after being accused by pro-democracy reformers of dragging his feet in investigating misrule and misdeeds by

Bulgaria's Communists may put ex-leader on trial

From Michael Hornsby, Sofia

A public trial of Bulgaria's former ruler, Mr Todor Zhivkov, and some of his relatives and closest political associates, is under consideration.

Referring to the possibility of a trial, Mr Andrei Lukyanov, a senior figure in the country's new Communist leadership, told reporters yesterday: "We will have to look into our legislation and constitution, but it is not excluded."

Speaking English, he added: "I think personally that there have been very serious political and constitutional misdeeds which might warrant a trial."

Mr Zhivkov, who is 78 and had ruled Bulgaria with an iron fist for 35 years, is believed to be under house arrest, as is his son, Vladimir, who is widely accused of using his former position in the party's central committee in charge of cultural affairs to embezzle public funds for his own enrichment.

"Any violation of the law by Mr Zhivkov or by anybody else will certainly be prosecuted in the way prescribed by that law. That is a firm position. But we will not do the opposite — punish somebody and then try to find a law for doing so because that would be a return to the old totalitarian regime," Mr Lukyanov said.

"We have started our investigations into the financial wrongdoing of Mr Zhivkov and his family and, in some cases, his closest associates. The way the Muslim question was dealt with in 1984 was a typical example." It was then

that the Zhivkov Government issued a decree forcing Bulgarians of Turkish descent to adopt Slavic names and prohibiting them from practising their religion or speaking Turkish in public.

The decree was rescinded by the new leadership on December 29 of last year, provoking a week of widespread demonstrations by Bulgarian nationalists.

"The decision (on the Muslims) was taken by Zhivkov himself, perhaps in the company of two or three high ranking associates. We learnt about it post-facto, when it had been carried out," Mr Lukyanov said.

"Certainly, in a situation like that, there is a problem of moral responsibility for everybody, and I don't exclude myself. It is the tragic logic of a totalitarian regime. You face choices. One of them is to be knocked out immediately."

The other is to try and survive until a democratic choice is possible. I, and many others, took the second choice. In retrospect, I think it was warranted."

Mr Lukyanov's remarks suggest that if there is to be a trial of Mr Zhivkov, it will concentrate heavily on the Muslim issue, which may make it possible to pin responsibility on the former ruler and his closest associates without implicating other senior figures in the party who remain in office.

Letter from Moscow

Grime and a gassy green drink on The Lithuania

Every night at 19.19 The Lithuania, 17 coaches long, glides majestically out of an ornate green and white station in central Moscow which has been restored to Tsarist glory, and passengers settle down for the leisurely journey to Vilnius.

Beneath the wrought-iron girders and elegant platform roofs the spirit of Anna Karenina lives on. Smart ladies in fur hats, army officers in greatcoats and braid, businessmen and visitors to the capital bustle aboard or linger with groups of friends to wave goodbye. An acrid smell hangs over the station as black smoke billows from the little chimneys all along the train, where in every coach coal-fired samovars are glowing and steaming.

The platforms are low, the heavily built coaches are tall. Uniformed attendants, most of them women, wait outside to inspect your ticket. In winter the warmth is luxurious after the bitter frost outside. On the floor of the wide corridor, a dragger keeps the carpet clean. In first — or "soft" — class, passengers enjoy the comfort of a big two-b berth compartment, complete with feather pillows and a thick blanket that fits inside the special top sheet. In "hard" class they are more cramped in four berths.

The Lithuania is one of Russia's proudest named trains, harking back to the days when overnight sleepers was the normal way to travel. Even 10 years ago, an attendant would take your dinner order and bring the meal to your compartment. The ride was smooth, the gleaming steel and Formica coaches were spotless — except for the toilets, the letdown of all Soviet institutions. There was a snug feeling as you gazed through the double windows at the chill white expanses of snow, the wooden villages and dense birch forests beyond the city suburbs. A glass of tea in a metal holder was always available from the samovar, and biscuits were provided in the soft-class compartments.

The platforms are low, the heavily built coaches are tall. Uniformed attendants, most of them women, wait outside to inspect your ticket. In winter the warmth is luxurious after the bitter frost outside. On the floor of the wide corridor, a dragger keeps the carpet clean. In first — or "soft" — class, passengers enjoy the comfort of a big two-b berth compartment, complete with feather pillows and a thick blanket that fits inside the special top sheet. In "hard" class they are more cramped in four berths.

The Lithuania is one of Russia's proudest named trains, harking back to the days when overnight sleepers was the normal way to travel. Even 10 years ago, an attendant would take your dinner order and bring the meal to your compartment. The ride was smooth, the gleaming steel and Formica coaches were spotless — except for the toilets, the letdown of all Soviet institutions. There was a snug feeling as you gazed through the double windows at the chill white expanses of snow, the wooden villages and dense birch forests beyond the city suburbs. A glass of tea in a metal holder was always available from the samovar, and biscuits were provided in the soft-class compartments.

The platforms are low, the heavily built coaches are tall. Uniformed attendants, most of them women, wait outside to inspect your ticket. In winter the warmth is luxurious after the bitter frost outside. On the floor of the wide corridor, a dragger keeps the carpet clean. In first — or "soft" — class, passengers enjoy the comfort of a big two-b berth compartment, complete with feather pillows and a thick blanket that fits inside the special top sheet. In "hard" class they are more cramped in four berths.

The platforms are low, the heavily built coaches are tall. Uniformed attendants, most of them women, wait outside to inspect your ticket. In winter the warmth is luxurious after the bitter frost outside. On the floor of the wide corridor, a dragger keeps the carpet clean. In first — or "soft" — class, passengers enjoy the comfort of a big two-b berth compartment, complete with feather pillows and a thick blanket that fits inside the special top sheet. In "hard" class they are more cramped in four berths.

The platforms are low, the heavily built coaches are tall. Uniformed attendants, most of them women, wait outside to inspect your ticket. In winter the warmth is luxurious after the bitter frost outside. On the floor of the wide corridor, a dragger keeps the carpet clean. In first — or "soft" — class, passengers enjoy the comfort of a big two-b berth compartment, complete with feather pillows and a thick blanket that fits inside the special top sheet. In "hard" class they are more cramped in four berths.

Grime and a gassy green drink on The Lithuania

with bigger issues — the future of their republic, the moves to independence and the reaction of President Gorbachov. Nobody minds talking to foreigners any more.

In the old days, a railway journey was a secret way of finding out what Russians really thought, as those sharing compartments with foreigners — usually due to an oversight by Intourist — would open up over glasses of cognac in the sure knowledge they would never meet their fellow passengers again. Nowadays you are lucky if you can get through without a complete history of Communist mismanagement, Soviet repression, the fate of ethnic minorities and predictions that *perestroika* will all end in tears and chaos.

Politics is the stuff of everyday debate — in the papers placed in racks for passengers' edification, on the radio blaring out along the corridors, and in every chance conversation. The decline of The Lithuania has been mirrored on The Latvia, the Belorussia and even the crack Red Arrow to Leningrad. Down south, the trains have long been dirtier and more erratic. Delays can last a day or more.

Grime and a gassy green drink on The Lithuania

with bigger issues — the future of their republic, the moves to independence and the reaction of President Gorbachov. Nobody minds talking to foreigners any more.

Grime and a gassy green drink on The Lithuania

with bigger issues — the future of their republic, the moves to independence and the reaction of President Gorbachov. Nobody minds talking to foreigners any more.

Grime and a gassy green drink on The Lithuania

with bigger issues — the future of their republic, the moves to independence and the reaction of President Gorbachov. Nobody minds talking to foreigners any more.

MANOLO BLAHNIK
SHOES

Sale

FROM 19th JANUARY 1990

49-51 OLD CHURCH STREET LONDON SW3 5BS
PHONE 352 8622 AND 352 3863

Aladdin's lamp

Michael Binyon

THE CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Czechs set deadline for withdrawal of Soviet forces

From Peter Green, Prague

The Czech Foreign Ministry said yesterday it had told the Soviet Union to withdraw at least half of its 80,000 troops and arms stationed here before Czechoslovakia holds free parliamentary elections in June.

Prague earlier announced it would like the Kremlin to withdraw all its military forces from the country by the end of 1990.

"The withdrawal should start as soon as possible, and the first stage should be completed before the elections in Czechoslovakia," Mr Lubos Dobrovsky, Foreign Ministry spokesman, said at a press conference on Wednesday.

"I would imagine that half, or may be a little more, of the military might" of the Soviets should be withdrawn by the elections tentatively set for June 8 Mr Dobrovsky said.

The presence of Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia has long been a sore point with the Czech people.

The country's former communist leadership, forced out of power by last November's gentle revolution, was installed by Soviet tanks, and for many Czechs, the threat of renewed Soviet intervention gave the communist leadership its only legitimacy.

The day-to-day presence too, of Soviet troops, has raised the ire of ordinary Czechs in much the same way

as the West Germans resent the Nato armies' presence in their country.

"They eat our food, they run people over in the road just because they don't know how to drive tanks," said Miss Jitka Kocanova.

And 21 years ago on Tuesday, a student named Jan Palach burnt himself to death in a gesture aimed at provoking Czechoslovakia's leadership into sending the Soviet troops home.

The Czechoslovak delegation to the talks was apparently dismayed that the Soviet negotiators apparently lacked authority to reach an agreement.

Budapest (Reuter) — A Hungarian state security chief resigned yesterday in a widening scandal over surveillance of opposition parties as Hungary returns to multi-party democracy. The Alliance of Free Democrats revealed documents this month which showed monitoring by the interior ministry.

Mr Dobrovsky said Soviet troops showed "a certain degree of surprise" at the Czech demands.

"Perhaps," he said, "the Soviet delegation was granted a narrower scope of authority than we were granted." Mr Dobrovsky added that there was concern on the Czech side

that the ethnic strife and other troubles within the Soviet Union might prevent the Soviet leadership from giving the necessary attention to the their demands.

The Czechoslovaks are insisting the talks resume in Moscow as scheduled, in early February. Soviet negotiators did not comment on the Czech timetable for a complete withdrawal by the end of 1990, nor did they present any counter proposal of their own.

Mr Dobrovsky said the precise timetable Czech negotiators gave the Soviets on Tuesday was "quite feasible" from a technical standpoint.

"After we find a political solution, a technical solution will also be found," he said. "The date of signing of the agreement is not a burning issue for us. The burning issue is when the troops are withdrawn."

Mr Dobrovsky emphasized that Czechoslovakia would maintain its commitments under the Warsaw Pact.

Moscow is seeking to link any withdrawal from Czechoslovakia to wider talks on reducing conventional forces in Europe which are now under way in Vienna. The Soviets have pledged in Vienna to reduce their forces in Eastern Europe by 275,000 men. An agreement is expected to be signed by the end of this year.



Mr Alexander Dubcek, the president of the Czechoslovakian Parliament, at a press conference in the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday, during which he declared that it was "just a matter of time" before Czechoslovakia joined the European Community (Peter Gulliford writes).

Mr Dubcek, the prime mover of the Prague Spring, took advantage of his first visit to the West since emerging from 20 years of forced

obscenity as a forestry official to make his surprising announcement.

He said: "We do want to become a member, everything in pointing to this. Our own ideas and the conditions show this is only a matter of time. I can quite justifiably say that Czechoslovakia will enjoy success in this field."

Earlier, he had collected the Sakharov Prize awarded to him last November for his contribution to democracy and human rights.

Shift by Britain on Community links for Berlin

From Ian Murray, Bonn

In a reversal of government policy, Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said East Germany has the legal right to expect preferential treatment if it seeks closer links with the European Community.

During a visit to discuss the implications of the changes in Eastern Europe, he said that East Germany had a slightly different legal basis for association or membership because, at West German insistence, a special provision had been included in the original documents establishing the Community. As far as German reunification was concerned, he said that if the people wanted it, then trying to prevent it could destabilize Europe.

Last November, before the special EC summit in Paris concentrating on the East European changes, Britain had argued that there should be no special treatment for East Germany, which was considered to be trailing Hungary and Poland in instituting reforms.

However, as M Jacques Delors, President of the European Commission, made clear in a speech to the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday, East Germany is a special case and can join when it wants because of the Community's commitment to German reunification.

Other East bloc countries would have to wait longer because they were not politically or economically ready.

Speaking in Paris, Chancellor Kohl of West Germany thanked M Delors for supporting "East Germany's European calling". But the Chancellor also said there should be no special "German way" in the future development of Europe. In this context he made it clear that he did not consider Germany was any longer entitled to question the present Polish western border.

His refusal to do so until now has been a major source of anxiety to the Soviet Union and Nato allies alike. What was needed, Herr Kohl said, was wider relations between the Community and all of Eastern Europe.

In Bonn, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, also thanked M Delors.

He discussed the question with M Delors last week when he was told that three possible ways were open to East Germany. It could seek associate membership, full membership or membership through a union with West Germany.

Mr Waldegrave said yesterday that he believed associate membership was the more likely way, although he would not hazard a guess as to when this might happen.

His talks, he said, had centred on the question of Germany's future and he had stressed that the British government position had never changed from supporting self-determination by the people.

"The whole effort of the last 40 years has been directed at that," he said.

Moscow admits pact is changing

From Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent, Vienna

One of the Soviet Union's most senior army generals admitted yesterday that the structure of the Warsaw Pact alliance was undergoing radical changes.

General Nikolai Chervov, chief of the arms control directorate of the Soviet general staff, said command and control of the Warsaw Pact armed forces, until now directed from Moscow, would have to change with the times.

The Soviet general was speaking yesterday in press conference at the 35-nation seminar on military doctrine in Vienna which has highlighted the determination of Eastern European countries to form their own defence strategies.

General Chervov disclosed that the Warsaw Pact's political consultative committee — the supreme policy-making body similar to Nato's North Atlantic Council — would probably "cease to exist".

The committee which has, in the past, consisted of the Communist Party general secretaries of the seven Warsaw Pact countries, decides alliance positions on all defence and arms control issues.

However, General Chervov said events in Eastern Europe had developed so fast, with moves towards pluralist political parties that the Communist Party was no longer able to take the lead. So the existing committee would have to be replaced by another body, he said. "We're still

Bonn wavers over Euro-fighter role

From Ian Murray, Bonn

West German participation in the troubled European Fighter Aircraft project is becoming less likely because of the reforms sweeping through Eastern Europe.

Development of the £22 billion "defensive fighter" has been complicated by a two-year dispute between London and Bonn over the choice of radar. Now the revolutionary changes in the Warsaw Pact countries are tipping the West German will to continue with the project.

Britain and West Germany each have a 33 per cent share, with Italy taking 21 per cent and Spain the remaining 13 per cent. At least 800 orders for the fighter, scheduled to enter service in 1996, had been expected, making it crucial to the creation of long-term jobs at British Aerospace.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister and a leading member of the Free Democrats — the junior partners in the Government — called the project into question yesterday.

Explaining his party's decision earlier this week to drop its support for the project, Herr Genscher said the decision to build the aircraft had been controversial in the first

Dixons LAST FEW DAYS! SALE

SAVE UP TO £200

0% INTEREST ON TOP BRANDS

SANYO NEW 8mm CAMCORDER

Ultra-high power zoom lens giving 8x magnification. Autofocus for clear sharp sequences every time. 1/2000th second high-speed shutter. Title superimposer. Model: VMD6.

6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE

Dixons Deal £699

PANASONIC VHS Autofocus Camcorder

Featuring audio dubbing, title generator and 6x power zoom.

Insert edit for new footage. Model: NVM7. Was £1099.

NO DEPOSIT & £39.30 MONTHLY. Incl. Optional Payment Protection Plan.

JVC SUPER VHS-C AUTOFOCUS

4 shutter speeds. 8-colour 3-page superimposer. Model: GRS77EK. Was £1299.

SAVE £200

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON NEW JVC

Fully Automatic, Autofocus VHS-C camcorder with 6x zoom, high-speed 1/1000th second shutter plus low-light capability. Model: GRA1.

12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE

Dixons Deal £699

HITACHI VHS AUTOFOCUS

5 shutter speeds. 6x power zoom with macro. Model: VM1200. Was £999.

SAVE £100

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON PANASONIC

S-VHS-C Autocam. Model: NVM550

10 MONTHS INTEREST FREE

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON HITACHI

S-VHS Autocam & zoom. Model: VM5700.

10 MONTHS INTEREST FREE

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

EX-SHOWROOM CAMCORDER CLEARANCE

Hurry! Limited stocks. Check with store for availability.

SANYO 8mm CAMCORDER Model: VMD3. Was £899. SAVE £100. SALE PRICE £599

PANASONIC VHS-C CAMCORDER Model: MC8. Was £749. SAVE £50. SALE PRICE £699

CANON 8mm CAMCORDER Model: E808. Was £899. SAVE £100. SALE PRICE £799

MINOLTA VHS-C CAMCORDER Model: C50E. Was £899. SAVE £100. SALE PRICE £799

HITACHI VHS-C CAMCORDER Model: VMC52. Was £1099. SAVE £100. SALE PRICE £999

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

0% INTEREST ON DIXONS

10% DEPOSIT & 6 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £104.85. ASK FOR DETAILS.

Conflict in the Kashmir valley

Delhi in crisis as support for independence swells

From Christopher Thorne, Srinagar, Kashmir

In the grubby tea shops and coffee houses of the Kashmir valley, packed with people sheltering from a savage winter, the key topic of conversation is how soon independence will come.

The independence movement patently enjoys mass support, posing a crisis for the new and untested Indian Government as it becomes locked in a dangerously escalating war of words with Pakistan over Kashmir's future.

It is almost impossible to find anyone in the valley who does not back the aims, if not the means, of a bewildering array of militant groups (27 of them at the last count) fighting to wrest Kashmir from what they call "Indian occupation" 43 years after partition.

India is finally paying the price of allowing a succession of inept governments to rule the valley. It takes a hefty bribe even to get a job as a teacher. In the absence of any genuine political outlet, the valley's youth turned to violence just over a year ago, with devastating results.

There is no functioning system of law and order any more, save for a fragile peace imposed by a huge number of

security forces during curfew hours, 5 pm to 5 am, every night.

The state government no longer realistically exists. Dr Farooq Abdullah, the chief minister, remains at only a tenuous and discredited symbol of official authority.

The militants, calling themselves Mujahidin (freedom fighters), are inspired by the Afghan guerrillas.

The second-in-command of Hizb-Islami-Kashmir, one of the three main guerrilla organizations operating in the valley, said in an interview that if the Afghans could drive out a superpower, then the Kashmiris could drive out India.

The unnamed man produced a leaflet that shopkeepers are being told to stick

in their windows. It orders women in Kashmir to observe *purdah*. "Koran is our constitution," it said. "Jihad (holy war) is our way". The leaflet demonstrates beyond doubt the extent to which Islamic fundamentalism is merging with the independence movement.

The man confirmed that his organization was behind a ban on liquor shops, cinemas and video stores, which were all "un-Islamic". It was also responsible for throwing black ink in the faces of unveiled Muslim women.

He also confirmed the existence of guerrilla training camps on the Pakistani side of the line of control dividing Kashmir. He said men from his organization were trained

A senior Pakistani official in Delhi gave a warning that repeated Indian accusations that his country was assisting Kashmiri militants were "potentially dangerous."

But it was a statement on Kashmir's right to self-determination that brought the sharpest attack from Delhi, which accused Pakistan of "wanton unwarranted and unacceptable interference in our internal affairs."

It ridiculed Pakistan's denial that it was assisting Kashmiri militants, saying that evidence to the contrary was overwhelming.

Colonel denies massacre accusation



Colonel Guillermo Alfredo Benavides, left, leader of eight Salvadorean military men accused of the massacre of six Jesuit priests last November, at a pre-trial court hearing in San Salvador yesterday. The

judge has 72 hours to rule on whether there is enough evidence to press charges and proceed with a trial. President Cristian of El Salvador claimed on US television that the soldiers alleged the

colonel ordered them to kill the Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter on the Central American University campus. He denies the accusation. A ninth soldier suspect is still at large.

Governors dismissed

Delhi (Reuter) — The Indian Government has ordered the mass resignation of governors of the country's 25 states, the interior ministry announced yesterday — its first big purge ordered by the Prime Minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh since he ousted Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party in the November elections. The ministry spokesman said the Congress Party had broken the tradition that governors, appointed by the national Government in Delhi to play a largely ceremonial role, should be non-political figures. However, he said, the Government would probably reappoint many of them.

**EVEN IF OTHER AIRLINES OFFERED FARES THIS LOW,
YOU'D BE WASTING YOUR TIME.**

Return Fare

Charleston	£339
Charlotte	£259
Myrtle Beach	£350
Norfolk	£403
New Orleans	£332
Memphis	£339
Nashville	£295
Orlando	£299
Phoenix	£362
Raleigh/Durham	£339
Richmond	£407
Tampa	£299

Since the daily USAir Gatwick flight is the sole international arrival at Charlotte, North Carolina, immigration is a formality of perhaps one hour.

You're rapidly through to catch a connecting USAir or USAir Express flight to 67 cities.

Currently, you can reach the above destina-

tions for something of a steal. And while you might just be able to fly cheaper, you can't get into the States with any less hassle.

Call free on 0800 777 333 or contact your local travel agent for full details. It's one way to ensure both time and money are on your side.

Seats are limited and special conditions apply regarding day of travel, advance purchase of ticket, length of stay. Some fares do not permit changes or refund. Add £10 tax/customs charge. Subject to Government approval.

America opens up TV to the blind

From James Bone, New York

Just as subtitles made television accessible to deaf people 15 years ago, a new technology to be used on national television across America soon could open up the small screen to the blind.

Next Wednesday, 32 public television stations will broadcast the first national programme enhanced by Descriptive Video Service.

The drama, *Sense and Sensibility* in the "American Playhouse" series, will be accompanied by a separate narration for blind people, transmitted through the second audio channel available on most new television sets.

"We got rave reviews from all the visually impaired people who watched it," said Miss King. "The most often heard comment was, 'I didn't know what I was missing'."

Users of the new system will not have to buy an expensive decoder to receive the additional signal as it will be available on their television's second audio channel. Those with an older set, without an extra audio channel, will be able to buy a decoding box for as little as \$35 (£21).

WORLD ROUNDUP

Burma ban on opposition chief

Rangoon (Reuter) — Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the main opposition leader in Burma, has been barred from next May's election, the first in 29 years, diplomatic sources said yesterday. Extra troops were posted in the capital as reports of the decision spread. The sources said the Rangoon district commission of the Elections Commission disqualified the charismatic leader of the National League for Democracy on Tuesday in response to a protest by a rival politician.

Although there was no formal right of appeal under rules established by the ruling Military Council, the democracy league had submitted a letter asking the National Elections Commission to review the case. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, aged 44, has been under house arrest since July.

Deaths spark aid call

Papua New Guinea — Australia is considering a big increase in military and economic aid to Papua New Guinea after the most violent attacks yet by rebels on Bougainville Island (Robert Cockburn writes). In several co-ordinated raids, defying the Government's attempted military crackdown, the secessionist rebels yesterday killed eight people, destroyed a prison and a helicopter, burnt government buildings, and cut power lines across their outlying South Pacific island. Visiting senior Australian ministers will now focus their talks on a request by Mr Rabbi Namalau, Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister, for an additional \$A20 million (£9.5 million) to prop up the ailing economy, and military training and equipment for the country's army.

Reprise for US bases

Athens — Greece agreed yesterday to let the US keep its military bases here for a further six months (Mario Modiano writes). This will give the Greek Government which will emerge from the general elections, now scheduled for April 8, enough time to negotiate a new agreement with the Americans. The last bases agreement which expired on December 22, 1988, gave the US a further 17 months to dismantle and remove all its military installations in Greece. This period ends on May 22, 1990. A law extending the period is to be passed by Parliament on Monday.

Swiss act on Noriega

Berne (Reuter) — Switzerland will release details of bank accounts linked to General Manuel Noriega, the former Panamanian强人, to help Washington press its drug-trafficking charges. The Justice Ministry said yesterday, authorities when US troops toppled General Noriega last month, will be handed over unless there is an appeal within 10 days. The General is in jail in Miami where US authorities are preparing a case against him for allegedly helping to smuggle drugs from Colombia to the US.

USAir

accusation

Sisulu urges ANC hawks to accept talks with Pretoria

From Jan Raath, Harare, and Gavin Bell, Johannesburg

The battle between the hawks and the doves of the African National Congress came into the open yesterday when Mr Walter Sisulu, himself jailed for attempting violent insurrection, appealed for talks with Pretoria.

The septuagenarian former ANC secretary-general was rapturously welcomed in Lukas's Mulungushi Hall by hundreds of young ANC members, many of them from the organization's military wing, *Umkhonto We Sizwe*, symbol of the party hard-liners' belief that armed struggle is the only way to achieve democracy in South Africa.

Mr Sisulu and seven others, all released from jail in South Africa three months ago and later issued with passports, arrived in Lukas on Monday for three days of talks with the hierarchy of the party's external leadership in the first substantial bridging of the gap between supporters inside and outside South Africa.

Observers predict a showdown between the military wing, on one hand, and Mr Sisulu and the many who support him, on the other.

"Some people are criticizing us for taking the initiative on this (negotiations), and saying we are going to be in a weak position," he told his audience, adding that some had "failed to understand" the party's policy. Drawing from

the autobiography of Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned ANC leader expected to be released soon, Mr Sisulu said there was "no easy way to freedom" and added that "the political struggle is a most complex affair".

However, he was careful to endorse the concept of a military effort alongside negotiations, urging the young men to continue the armed struggle, despite the significantly softened approach to the ANC of President de Klerk. "We know that if this is not done the regime ... will go back."

Talks were crucial, though, because the ANC had "reached a crossroad". "There is no longer any way in which the regime can turn back. We have reached a point where the majority knows where it is going to."

Mr Sisulu also promised that the 1990s "will not end without us seeing freedom".

The ANC leadership in exile and the United Democratic Front (UDF), its surrogate in South Africa, are discussing plans to intensify the anti-apartheid defiance campaign to put further pressure on the Government before negotiations.

The ANC national executive committee begins a three-day meeting in Lukas today and a top-level UDF delegation hopes to confer

with Mandela in the next few weeks. The ANC debate overture strategy has been made more urgent by the recent initiatives of President de Klerk, and the unspoken promise that Nelson Mandela, the jailed ANC leader, will be freed soon.

The date of his release remains the subject of intense and conflicting speculation.

The latest word from a close family friend, a senior figure in the anti-apartheid movement, is that Mandela, aged 71, is unlikely to leave the prison officer's villa assigned to him at Victor Verster jail before March. Diplomats also regard the first two weeks of March as the most likely to see his release.

The prevailing view is that President de Klerk will abolish at least some of the repressive legislation before freeing the veteran ANC leader, with a view to beginning negotiations on constitutional reforms.

The business community in South Africa has been encouraged by statements attributed to Mandela that he favours a free enterprise system. Mr Richard Maponya, a prominent black businessman who met Mandela recently, quoted him as saying that he no longer advocated state control of industry and commerce as an instrument for black liberation.

Mystery oil slick threatens Madeira islands



Workers scoop up crude oil from the only sandy beach on Porto Santo Island after an oil slick spread through Portugal's Atlantic archipelago of Madeira. Experts raced to avert disaster on the holiday islands yesterday (Reuters reports from Funchal). Overnight currents carried small quantities of oil to Madeira Island's northern shore from Porto Santo, 25 miles to the north-east, where the 13-mile slick has built up since Monday. As oil-soaked gulls

and turtles washed up on Porto Santo's southern beach, Señor Fernando Real, the Environment Minister in Portugal, flew to the scene along with Air Force planes loaded with tonnes of anti-pollutants. "It is a serious situation," said a Madeira official. Environmentalists warned of a catastrophe if the slick reached the nearby Deserted Islands, whose nature reserve is home to a colony of rare sea lions and birds. No is certain that the oil had been in a choppy sea so long, he said. Officials have not ruled out that the oil could have drifted from a

large spill from an Iranian tanker off Morocco's Atlantic coast last month. But they say oil would normally have broken up during the 400-mile journey to Madeira. Madeira's regional autonomous government was considering seeking the aid of France, Spain, Finland or The Netherlands to battle the slick. Scores of men using bulldozers and buckets have scooped up several tonnes of oil on the island. Officials closed the island's desalination plant after finding oil in it.

Death toll mounts in Somalia's civil war

By Michael Kniipe
Diplomatic Correspondent

The number of people killed in the civil war in Somalia in the past 19 months is estimated at between 50,000 and 60,000 in a report published today.

According to Africa Watch, a US-based human rights monitoring organization, nearly half a million refugees have fled the country, principally to Ethiopia, while another 400,000 have been displaced within Somalia.

It is difficult to overstate the extent of the Somali Government's brutality towards its own people, says Africa Watch. Two decades of rule by President Siad Barre's regime had resulted in human rights violations on an unprecedented scale, which have devastated the country.

For 20 years, strict government controls have prohibited independent political activity and cut off all legal avenues for the expression of dissent. The repressive system is implemented by a uniformed paramilitary organization, the Victory Pioneers, which acts as the regime's watchdog at a neighbourhood level, and a powerful secret police organization, the National Security Service.

The Somali Government has shown a total disregard for the international laws of war, using its air force and artillery fire against the civilian population.

Africa Watch says the war is continuing in the north against the Somali National Movement, a rebel group drawn primarily from the Issaak tribal clan. Similar policies are now being pursued in southern and central Somalia against the Ogaden and Khawre clans in reprisal for their support of two rebel movements established last year, the Somali Patriotic Movement and the United Somali Congress.

Hong Kong and 1997 Economy flaw found in draft law

From Andrew McEwan, Diplomatic Editor, Hong Kong

As China began the final stage of deliberations on Hong Kong's future constitution, it emerged yesterday that British officials are worried about the omission of a key point on the economy.

The current draft of the Basic Law, which will apply from 1997, does not explicitly give the Hong Kong Government control over its own economic affairs.

Such control is merely implied. This contrasts with the Basic Law's clarity on related issues, leaving no doubt that Hong Kong will have control over its own monetary, financial and fiscal matters.

In theory it could mean that Peking would be able to tell Hong Kong how to spend its money. British officials regard the omission as contrary to the 1984 Sino-British Joint Declaration, which set the guidelines for the Basic Law now being formulated.

An important Chinese committee, meeting in Canton, yesterday began what is ex-

pected to be its last session of discussions on the Basic Law. It may complete its work this week and the document will then go to a plenary session of the Basic Law drafting committee next month.

Mr Xiao Weiyun, a Chinese law professor, said amendments could be made at the

Hong Kong - Hong Kong police have classified as murder the death of a Vietnamese in the Whitehead detention centre, where thousands of boat people held (Jonathan Brant writes). The man died and nine others were injured, one seriously, when 20 masked men stormed the camp's dormitory yesterday.

plenary session and at a meeting of the National People's Congress in March.

However, the possibility that it could go through without the economic provision is worrying the British, who are expected to raise it at the next meeting of the Joint Liaison

Group in April. The group is the principal forum for discussions between Britain and China on the transfer of sovereignty over the colony.

Although the Basic Law is a matter for China, the agreement between the two countries is that it should be consistent with the 1984 Joint Declaration. Britain has a right to raise any inconsistencies with China.

Senior Chinese officials expressed concern recently over huge infrastructure investments by the present Hong Kong Government. Although these are a matter for Hong Kong and Britain, they will not be completed before China takes over. The lack of an economic clause in the Basic Law could allow China to alter the infrastructure programme once it takes over. Peking is understood to be concerned that Hong Kong will be unable to pay for the later stages of the project and that it will be obliged to help.

The investments are seen by

the British and Hong Kong governments as evidence of confidence in Hong Kong's future economic health.

During the visit this week by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, construction gangs were pouring the foundations of a huge new central building to be called Citicorp Tower. The site alone cost HK\$2.7 billion, although it is only 100 yards square.

It will stand next to Hong Kong's current tallest building, the 70-storey Bank of China, built by the Peking Government. It is due to be completed next month after being delayed by a shortage of workers.

Mr Kingsley Sit, a member of the Legislative Council, said yesterday that China should be consulted about Hong Kong's huge public works schemes. He advocated direct dialogue between Peking and Hong Kong's Office of the Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils.

Liberians flee Doe soldiers after bungled coup attempt

By Susan MacDonald

Hundreds of people have died and thousands have fled fighting in north-east Liberia amid yet another apparent attempt to overthrow President Samuel Doe of Liberia.

Amnesty International has called on the régime in the West African state to stop summary executions by government troops and to investigate the alleged killing of hundreds of unarmed civilians since the rebellion against President Doe's régime began on Christmas Eve.

The Liberian Red Cross has announced that about 5,000 people are homeless inside Liberia, in addition to the more than 20,000 refugees from the affected Nimba province who have fled to the neighbouring countries of Ivory Coast and Guinea.

Nimba province is under a dusk-to-dawn curfew and has been declared out of bounds to travellers.

A lack of first-hand information means that it is difficult to assess the situation there or to verify the strength

burning houses in an effort to root out the rebel forces.

About 20,000 refugees, men, women and children, are now being cared for in the Ivory Coast. They have been streaming across the border for the past three weeks and accuse government troops and rebels alike of atrocities.

President Doe has denied that his troops are responsible for the killings, saying these are being carried out by rebels.

He has added that the situation is now under control. Mr Taylor, however, says that his men launched a new offensive this week and could soon march on the capital, Monrovia.

Master Sergeant Doe seized power in a bloody coup in 1980 in which President William Tolbert and 13 of his Cabinet were executed.

Since then he has governed this independent West African state, set up by freed American slaves in 1842, notwithstanding an average official rate of an attempted coup a year.

President Doe: Denies ordering executions

Demonstrations grow as Israel's crisis deepens

From Richard Owen Sefed, northern Israel

The air is thick with the smoke of burning tyres and protesters chant slogans against the Israeli Government as they barricade the roads with

the socialist ethic on which Israel was founded is in serious decline. The Zionist idealism which lay behind the setting up of *kibbutzim* and *moshavim* - collective and cooperative farms - in the pioneer days of the Jewish state has dwindled.

The growing number of oriental or Sephardic Jews and immigrants from the Soviet Union either have no interest in the European origins of Zionist socialism or are actively opposed to it.

In response, Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader in the coalition, who has seen the power base of his once dominant Labour Party gradually crumble, has embarked on a programme of privatization. He has lured off Koor subsid-

aries for private sale. None of this has mollified the hard-pressed settlements in the north, in Upper Galilee and in the *Golan Heights*, on Israel's borders with Lebanon and Syria, many of which

Cairo (Reuter) - Egypt has invited Mr Shimon Peres, Israel's Labour party leader and Vice Prime Minister, to Cairo next week to press for Israeli participation in a dialogue with Palestinians, diplomats said yesterday.

combine farming with industry. Both are proving unprofitable, and, in spite of the strategic importance of the settlements, the Government has so far refused to pay the *moshavim* the £2 million which

the farmers claim they are owed in subsidies. Most *moshavim* and *kibbutzim* have gone on strike, and several farmers are said to have committed suicide because of the crisis. Water supplies to the settlements have been cut off because of unpaid bills.

In response, the Government is rushing a Bill through the Knesset to approve emergency aid to Upper Galilee. Settlers there say the real problem is that in the long-term, subsidized enterprises are no longer economically viable. Mr Avraham Katz-Or, the Agriculture Minister, this week told angry farmers that they must learn to "diversify".

It was announced this week that the inflation rate for 1989 was just over 20 per cent.

Drug lords offer peace deal

Bogota (Reuter) - The Extradiables, Colombia's main drug cartel, said yesterday they would end bombings and assassinations of public figures and journalists to prove they wanted peace with the Government.

The station, read over radio stations in Medellin, centre of the drug trade, said they would also halt cocaine exports and turn over their arms and drug laboratories "the moment that we are given constitutional and legal guarantees".

Police therapy

Stockholm - Mr Tommy Lindstrom, Sweden's national police chief said the detectives investigating the death of Olof Palme, the former Prime Minister, had to have psychotherapy to cope with the decision last year to free Mr Christo Pettersson, who was convicted of the murder.

Media attack

Beirut (Reuter) - General Michel Aoun, the Christian military leader, has ordered the prosecution of media which defied his ban on identifying Mr Elias Hrawi as President.

Custody death

Johannesburg (Reuter) - A black South African man, aged 19, suspected of arson attacks, died on Tuesday during interrogation police.

Press protest

Dhaka - At least 500 journalists in Bangladesh marched on Parliament yesterday demanding the repeal of anti-press laws.

Mayor killed

Marseilles (AFP) - The mayor of one of the city's districts was shot dead in his car by two unknown men.

Briton gets to grips with Japanese big time

From Joe Joseph
Tokyo

Nathan Strange, a not especially chunky 18-year-old from Herne Bay, has a straightforward reason for being Britain's first *sumo* wrestler and perhaps the only man of Kent to wear his hair in a greased topknot for purely professional reasons - "because I love it".

The only less likely character in the grand *sumo* tournament now nearing its climax in Tokyo is Marcello Salomon Imach, a 22-year-old Argentinian who has just become the first Jewish *sumo* wrestler.

"It's like the Army," says Strange. "It's very disciplined and obviously there are some difficulties living with 16 other people in one big *sumo*-manned room. But I really like Tokyo and I love *sumo*. It's neat."

Although Strange has actually lost weight since arriving last summer to join a *sumo* stable - largely because apprentices do so much running around for the elders that they sweat most of their fat away - he will end up as a Bedford truck or another *sumo* wrestler can knock them off balance.

They train rigorously, and there are muscles under the fat. They run and jump and manage to swim surprisingly sleekly.

Even expatriates get hooked to the television when a tournament is on

and enjoy bouts which, after five minutes of ceremonial stamping, can pass in the blink of an eye as one wrestler forces the other to the floor or out of the ring. The £100 ringside seats are as difficult to obtain as an invitation to the royal box at Covent Garden, but twice as exclusive.

Strange has taken to darts and other odd spectator sports. British addresses are now common on the bottom of letters to Japanese *sumo* magazines. Strange has attracted a clutch of fans, mostly young Japanese and British girls, who write to wish him success.

Strange was among the many people in Britain who caught the bug watching *sumo* on Channel Four. He then practised *sumo* in south London with his English judo instructor. Now that he is in Tokyo, he concedes it is not an easy or glamorous life.

"You do everything from cooking to cleaning the loos. If you're bottom rank you clean the toilets, including the giant size toilet we've just had installed. I'm spared toilet duty now. We wake up at six and start training at 6.30. Training is a lot harder than I thought it would be. Cooking begins at 9 am."

Despite a diet of heavy stews made

of fish, chicken, soyabean curd and vegetables, and mountains of bulk-building rice, Strange's weight has shrunk from 19 st 5 lb to 16 st 8 lb due to the physical demands of his stable, his wage is basically pocket money.

But there is money at the top. *Sumo*'s current darling, one of the most successful wrestlers in the history of the sport and the favourite of most women spectators because he is the only top wrestler who looks vaguely muscular, is Chiyonofuji, known as "The Wolf".

Since reaching the rank of Grand Champion in 1981, Chiyonofuji, aged 34, has pocketed more than 800 million yen (£3.3 million) from salary, bonuses, prize money, and appearance fees. At a good tournament he can pick up 200 million yen from generous fans in the crowd. Encouraging for Strange, Chiyonofuji has made it to the top even though he weighs in at

January 17 1990

PARLIAMENT

MIKE POWELL

Labour policy on Hong Kong 'is irresponsible'

The Government's commitment to give British passports to 50,000 Hong Kong families was reaffirmed by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, when he reported to MPs on his visit to the colony.

He was criticized from the Labour benches over the slow progress of democracy for Hong Kong and from the Conservative benches for the immigration to Britain that the passport plan would bring. He accused Labour of having a policy that was obscure and irresponsible.

Mr Hurd said that everyone he had spoken to, politicians and the business community, had welcomed his statement made just before Christmas that 50,000 families would be given British passports, although they had hoped for more. He had assured them that the Government was fully committed to the proposal.

Referring to the Vietnamese boat people, he said that Hong Kong had paid a high price for its policy of first asylum, but the colony could not be expected to take the same number of boat people — this year — more than 30,000 — than it received last year.

"There is nowhere for those boat people to go. The policy of repatriation is the right one, and I hope this may soon be endorsed by the international community."

On the agreement with China, he said that no one in Hong Kong seriously disputed the validity of the joint declaration as the basis for Hong Kong's future after 1997. Although confidence was undermined last June, the Chinese Government had reaffirmed its commitment to the joint declaration.

It had to be made to work and an important element in that was the extent and pace of democratization in Hong Kong before and after 1997. Discussions on that issue were continuing and he would not go into detail today.

"Our goal is to set in place a system, starting with elections to the Legislative Council in 1991, which will satisfy Hong Kong's aspirations for democracy and which will endure after 1997."

"I hope, after further discussion, to be able to announce a decision within the next few weeks."

Mr Kaufman said that the Government had indicated that it recognized the need for an increase in the number of members to be elected to the Legislative Council, but it had done nothing or had left the field

free for decisions by Peking. They had proposed only 18 directly elected members by 1997, the year of the handover.

In Hong Kong, Mr Hurd indicated that there would be 20 by next year. Today he had given no information of any kind and that was not good enough.

The draft Bill of Rights had been thrown out by the Executive Council in Hong Kong as inadequate. Was the Government proceeding with it?

What international discussions were taking place on the boat people? Had the Vietnamese Government indicated whether it was ready to receive any further boat people sent forcibly? What government incentives were there for voluntary repatriation?

What action was the Government taking to give direct economic aid to Vietnam? This was the most sensible way of giving the Vietnamese confidence to stay in their own country.

The Amnesty International report alleged ill treatment of boat people and that one had

been made no representations to us about this matter."

While it was right to encourage voluntary return of Vietnamese who were not refugees, that had not proved sufficient so repatriation was also necessary.

The Amnesty report needed to be considered. Several of the incidents mentioned had been investigated by the Government of Hong Kong and the criticisms had not been accepted.

Under Chinese law, full citizens of another country were not dual citizens and it followed in the case of UK citizens that they were entitled to British consular protection throughout the world.

Hong Kong Chinese who were not full UK citizens were in a different position. As regards public servants, the joint declaration made clear that the special administrative region after 1997 might employ British and other foreign citizens.

Mr David Howell (Guildford, C), chairman of the Select Committee on Foreign Affairs, said that Mr Hurd had not been helped by Mr Kaufman (Conservative cheers). Was the Opposition now in favour of giving passports to everyone in Hong Kong?

Mr Hurd said that sometimes Mr Kaufman oozed sympathy, sometimes he said that there was nothing to be done. There was a strong impression from Mr Kaufman's foggy phrases that Labour had not understood whatsoever in the sensible future of Hong Kong.

Mr Peter Shore (Bethnal Green and Stepney, Lab) suggested greater priority to satisfying the demand for democracy in Hong Kong above appeasing Peking.

Mr George Walden (Buckingham, C) said that Labour's undertaking to remove the right of abode for the 50,000 families would mean that the election of a Labour Government would precipitate a crisis in Hong Kong. Was not Labour's position the most cynical and opportunistic policy ever heard from the Opposition?

Mr Hurd: Labour Party policy is obscure as to about 90 per cent and that part which is not obscure is irresponsible.

Mr Bernie Grant (Tottenham, Lab) asked what assurances had been extracted from the Chinese on the security of British citizens after 1997, particularly in view of Chinese Government statements about peaceful demonstrations in Hong Kong.

Mr Hurd agreed that the Chinese Government was concerned about some expressions of free opinion in Hong Kong.

Ronald Butt, page 12

● There is nowhere for the boat people to go. The policy of repatriation is, therefore, the right one to follow. ■

Everyone who got a passport would inevitably seek to come to Britain before 1997, "making nonsense of the Government's claim that the purpose of their plan is to anchor those people to Hong Kong".

Mr Hurd said that it would be a mistake to go into a decision which made impossible long-term progress on democracy if that progress was attainable.

"The drafting of the Bill of Rights is a matter for the Hong Kong Government. The Chi-

anski had indicated that it recognized the need for an increase in the number of members to be elected to the Legislative Council, but it had done nothing or had left the field

should be an independent inquiry.

The deputy secretary general of the basic law drafting committee was reported to have said that under that basic law top officials in Hong Kong's post-1997 government would not have the right to live abroad and that Hong Kong residents with British passports would not be allowed to seek British consular protection while in the territory after its return to China.

"Is this not a torpedo right through the Government's ill-conceived plans to award UK passports to 50,000 so-called key people?"

Everyone who got a passport would inevitably seek to come to Britain before 1997, "making nonsense of the Government's claim that the purpose of their plan is to anchor those people to Hong Kong".

Mr Hurd agreed that the Chinese Government was concerned about some expressions of free opinion in Hong Kong.

Ronald Butt, page 12

Steel golden share will not be used

The Government will not use its golden share in British Steel to intervene in its management decisions. Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said at questions.

Pressure on Mr Ridley to intervene in British Steel's investment decisions in Scotland started when Mrs Margaret Ewing (Moray, SNP) said that the golden share had been brought into existence to protect vital national interests, which for Scotland meant the preservation of the Scottish steel industry.

British Steel was starving Ravenscraig and associated works of investment without which any paper guarantee of their future was worse than useless. Would Mr Ridley make representations to British Steel to make sure that investment was forthcoming?

Mr Ridley said that the purpose of the golden share in British Steel had been to protect the industry, which had been badly damaged by public ownership, from unwelcome take-

overs for a limited period. "That situation has not arisen, where it would be proper to use that golden share, but it is not available for the purpose which suggests."

It was made clear at the time and I make it clear again that the Government has no intention of using it for any purpose other than that for which it was first placed there.

Later, Mr Ridley said that the chairman of British Steel had recently reaffirmed that a guarantee on the future of Scottish plants still stood. "That is the position. There is no way I can intervene and it would be quite wrong for me to seek to intervene."

Mr Spencer Batiste (Elmet, C) said that the whole concept of golden share was alien to the stock market.

Mr Ridley said that he had come to agree with Mr Batiste even more strongly since Labour's policy review had said that the golden share established the principle of separating voting rights for shares.

Car production ready for expansion

The best news for the future of the car manufacturing industry in this country was that annual production was set to expand from 1.5 million cars to 2 million during the decade, Mr John Redwood, Under Secretary of State for Corporate Affairs, said during question time in the Commons.

In 1988, 1.357,000 cars had been imported into the United Kingdom and 261,000 exported.

Mr Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw, Lab) described the 1988 figures as appalling. They were 27 per cent worse than in 1979.

When was the Government going to get tough like the governments of France, Italy and the United States against Japanese imports? Why was the Government giving subsidies to Nissan and Toyota in Derby and helping them to steal the skilled labour force from Rolls-Royce?

Mr Redwood said that Labour had presided over a huge increase in import penetration in the 1970s from 27.9 per cent to 56.3 per cent.

Under the Conservative Government, penetration had remained steady at around 56 per cent to 57 per cent.

Mr Redwood said that Labour had presided over a huge increase in import penetration in the 1970s from 27.9 per cent to 56.3 per cent.

The total number of cases outstanding fell by 5,000 to a little over 26,000. That compared with a backlog of 37,000 in 1988-89 and 52,000 in 1983-84.

The Government had brought forward a review of the disputes procedure. The review was now under way and he hoped a

new investment from Japan was to be welcomed.

Mr John Townsend (Bridlington, C) asked what extent the decline of the British car industry had resulted from the actions of trade unions in refusing to accept new industrial practices, from their restrictive practices and strikes.

And to what extent had the Japanese decided to invest here because there was a Conservative Government that believed in private enterprise and the open market?

Mr Redwood said that the trade unions had been aided and abetted in their destructive policies of the 1970s by the wrong policies of the Labour Government, which had given the wrong signals to the car industry.

How much stronger that process will become if it comes from a confederal Germany.

Such pressure would be irresistible and, with their removal, would go much of the remaining credibility of the Nato

destructive nationalism or continental animosities from dividing and weakening us or from diverting us from the very important new problem that it will stand for our continent in the twenty-first century."

As a leading member of Nato, West Germany had long stated its clear objective of removing battlefield and short-range nuclear weapons from the front line between East and West Germany.

"How much stronger that process will become if it comes from a confederal Germany."

Such pressure would be irresistible and, with their removal, would go much of the remaining credibility of the Nato

destructive nationalism or continental animosities from dividing and weakening us or from diverting us from the very important new problem that it will stand for our continent in the twenty-first century."

But, with vision and vigour, the leaders of Europe had a real opportunity — something which occurred only once in a lifetime — to establish a framework of understanding and agreement that could ensure security and peaceful progress within democratic society for the people of Europe.

Lord Bonham-Carter (Lib)

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Import penetration in manufacturing industry rose from 27 per cent in 1979 to 36 per cent in the year ended March 1989. Mr John Redwood, Under Secretary of State for Corporate Affairs, said at questions.

The figure was criticized by Mr Clive Soley (Hammersmith, Lab), who said that it was a disgraceful record for a Government of the world's first industrial power.

And to what extent had the Japanese decided to invest here because there was a Conservative Government that believed in private enterprise and the open market?

Mr Redwood said that the trade unions had been aided and abetted in their destructive policies of the 1970s by the wrong policies of the Labour Government, which had given the wrong signals to the car industry.

The 1990s would be better with the firm base of sounder industrial relations, which had proved attractive to inward investors.

Mr David Steel (Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale, Lib Dem) said that the problem facing consumers was that brand names had disappeared. There was no way of knowing if a car had been manufactured in this country, Spain, Germany or Italy. Could British manufacturers not put appropriate stickers in cars?

Mr Redwood said that he thought it was Liberal Democrat policy to welcome the increase of the European market. Various goods assembled here had long come from components made elsewhere.

Inward investment by the Japanese had meant more jobs for the industry and huge increases in exports would follow. The threat now would come from Eastern European manufacturers.

Mr Redwood said that trade unions had a role to play in helping rather than hindering inward investment.

The attitude of Labour in government had been whining and dithering — with wining spell with an "h" — together with the issuing of lunch-time directives to car companies. They had tried that and it had been a disaster.

Mr Douglas Henderson (Newcastle

upon Tyne North, Lab) asked how the minister squared his comments about the supposed recovery of the British car industry, with the trade deficit in automotive products of £6.5 billion in 11 months.

Was not one of the main causes the production of cars "stuffed" with components from abroad?

Mr Redwood said that it was for vehicle companies to make the best commercial decisions. That was the way to get secure jobs and the best package for consumers.

Mr Graham Riddick (Colne Valley, C) said that the only contribution seen from the opposition Labour Party had been the way in which £400 million of planned investment in Dundee had been stopped by their paymasters in the trade unions.

Inward investment by the Japanese had meant more jobs for the industry and huge increases in exports would follow. The threat now would come from Eastern European manufacturers.

Mr Redwood said that trade unions had a role to play in helping rather than hindering inward investment.

The attitude of Labour in government had been whining and dithering — with wining spell with an "h" — together with the issuing of lunch-time directives to car companies. They had tried that and it had been a disaster.

Mr Douglas Henderson (Newcastle

Ulster Orders approved

The Electricity Supply Amendment Order, allowing the Northern Ireland Electricity Board to spend money to prepare for privatization, and the Health and Personal Social Services (Special Agencies) (Northern Ireland) Order, to provide for special health agencies in the province, were agreed by the Lords on Tuesday.

Aid reduced

Expenditure on regional assistance in England had been reduced in real terms from £594 million (at 1989 prices) in 1979 to £326.6 million last year, it was disclosed at question time. Giving the figures, Mr Douglas Hogg, Minister for Industry, said that at 1979 prices, the regional assistance for that year was £297.6 million.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Treasury: Prime Minister. Motion on government financial support for English local authorities. Lords (2.30): Food Safety Bill committee, second day.

Wakeham hints at coal action

The following report of a Commons debate on the Coal Industry Bill appeared in later editions yesterday.

Early action to help those suffering from subsidence caused by coalmining was hinted at by Mr John Wakeham, Secretary of State for Energy, during the report stage of the Bill on Tuesday night.

Responding to widespread criticism of British Coal's attitude to claimants, he said that the present state of affairs was not satisfactory. The Government had a clear commitment to bring forward legislation on the problem independent of privatization of the industry. There would seem to me to be no way of privatizing British Coal without clearing up the question of the liabilities and the rights of subsidence.

A new version of his department's

advisory leaflet was being prepared. It would describe new procedures agreed with British Coal for dealing with subsidence claims. It might be possible to get a system for settling subsidence disputes without legislation.

Many claims had already been met by British Coal. The trends were encouraging and the number of new claims continued to fall. In 1989-90, British Coal received 9,600 new claims, about 2,000 fewer than the previous year. It settled about 10,000 claims a year at a cost of nearly £50 million.

The total number of cases outstanding fell by 5,000 to a little over 26,000. That compared with a backlog of 37,000 in 1988-89 and 52,000 in 1983-84.

The Government had brought forward a review of the disputes procedure. The review was now under way and he hoped a

simpler, quicker and cheaper way for claimants to resolve disputes with British Coal would be the outcome.

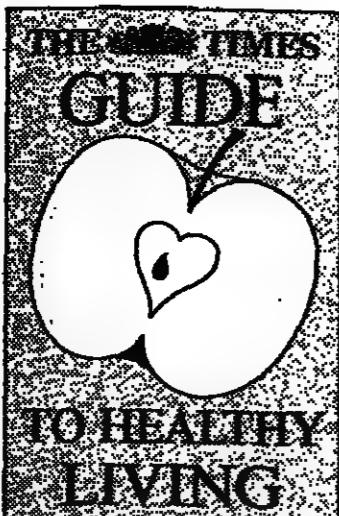
British Coal reorganized the finances of British Coal and Mr Wakeham said: It would be neither practical nor desirable to take subsidence provisions on to the present short, primarily financial Bill.

An Opposition new clause to ensure that the deficit that the Government is to finance should include sums to cover all outstanding claims for compensation for subsidence damage was rejected by 246 votes to 175 — Government 71.

Another Opposition amendment to tighten up planning controls over private open-cast mining was rejected by 229 votes to 161 — Government majority, 68.

SPECTRUM 1

Is your environment friendly?

Part 4:
Fiends of
the Earth

You are what you eat, drink, and breathe. But is it doing you harm?

Ann Kent reports

In just a few years, public indifference about the environment has been replaced with public alarm. Our surroundings are now mentioned so often, and in such a negative way, that it seems as if even the simple act of being can damage your health.

How much does where you live affect your health? The first problem in trying to assess just how far we have polluted our environment, and how this has affected our health, lies with the lack of hard scientific information. Timothy O'Riordan, professor of environmental sciences at the University of East Anglia, in Norwich, says: "Once the EC's Environmental Protection Agency is set up and begins its monitoring activities, we should have a better idea about what is going on."

O'Riordan points out that our drinking water and air are purer than those enjoyed by our Victorian ancestors. Housing and sanitation have improved beyond all recognition and, he says, the chance of dying of a pollution-induced disease is lower than it has ever been. "But this is no reason for complacency," he says. Judith Gubbay, of *Which?*, the Consumer's Association magazine, thinks that in some parts of the country we would definitely benefit from not drinking tap water. "Some water supplies do not come up to EC regulations, and some of the substances involved have a known health risk.

But how big that risk is, no one knows," she says.

Gubbay was one of the authors of a *Which?* investigation into water pollution. Its report, published last February, and based on information supplied by the Department of the Environment, showed that water authorities in the Midlands, East Anglia, Tyneside and parts of Scotland failed to measure up to EC standards. The pollutants were aluminium, manganese, iron, lead and nitrate. However, this information is now out of date, and the department has not revealed which water authorities are still failing to come up to scratch.

Gubbay advises anyone who is concerned to write to their water authority and ask about the purity of the supply and whether it conforms to EC regulations. People who are really worried could consider water filters.

Friends of the Earth has focused on air pollution as a serious environmental health hazard. Last August, it published its report on "Air Pollution and Health".

"Last year the World Health Organization guidelines for ozone, nitrogen dioxide and carbon monoxide levels were breached several times in Britain," says Fiona Weir of FoE.

The Government announced last year that it would make ozone pollution data available to the Press a day after any "smog" incident. The people who are at risk during such episodes, according to Weir, are pregnant women and young children, as well as people suffering from asthma, bronchitis and heart disease.

She estimates the number of those at risk to be one in five of the population, but admits that it is "almost impossible" to prove the harm scientifically because statistics on how many asthma attacks occur during a pollution episode are not collected.

The risk of air pollution should be reduced after 1992, when the fitting of catalytic converters will be compulsory on all new cars. But FoE is concerned that by the time the new regulations are enforced, six million new and, for the most part, unconverted cars will have been sold.

In statistical terms, there are striking variations in the health enjoyed by people in different regions around the country. According to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, the overall number of deaths from diseases is highest among men in Scotland.

Deaths from heart disease are highest in Scotland and Northern Ireland. A woman in Scotland runs almost twice the risk of succumbing to a heart attack as her counterpart in East Anglia, which has the lowest rate in the UK.

The North-South divide also applies to victims of cancer. The

highest mortality rates for death by cancer in men occur in the north of England and Scotland. Men in the south-west of England have the lowest cancer mortality rate. Among women, those in the north of England have the highest cancer death rate.

Infant mortality rates, a good indicator of health and health care, are highest in Yorkshire and Humberside. According to Professor Walter Holland, president of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians, there are a number of reasons for these regional differences. "Coronary heart disease, for example, is commoner in the west and north-west than in the east and south-east, and is commoner in Scotland and Wales than in England. One major reason is the wide variation in how much people smoke. Diet and obesity are another factor, and another reason is possibly associated with the water supply. Studies have shown that people who live in soft water areas have a higher mortality rate than people who live in hard water areas."

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund has carried out a detailed study of the suggested links between cancer and proximity to nuclear installations.

According to Dr Sarah Darby, a medical statistician with the ICRF who carried out the study: "There is absolutely no evidence that cancers in general are more common near Britain's 15

principal nuclear installations."

But, while there is no general increase in cancer rates, childhood leukaemia is about 20 per cent more common round nuclear installations. However, Darby and her colleagues checked cancer rates at sites where nuclear installations had been seriously considered but never built, and found that leukaemia rates were about 20 per cent higher around these sites as well. "It may be something to do with rural conditions or the geography of the areas," she says.

The self-pollution caused by tobacco inhalation is a greater threat to health. Smoking causes 90 per cent of lung cancers, and is also an important cause of heart disease, strokes, mouth and throat cancers and is strongly linked with cervical cancer, facial wrinkling, osteoporosis, stomach ulcers and leukaemia.

"Passive" smokers may also be at risk. Dr Martin Jarvis of the ICRF's health behaviour unit estimates that there is a 30 per cent greater risk of lung cancer among non-smokers who live with smokers.

We also think passively inhaling a colleague's smoke at work has an effect," he says. "Research has shown that people who are near smokers inhale between 0.7 per cent and 1 per cent of their cigarettes. They would be at the same risk of disease as smokers, but at a much lower level."

● Additional research by Sara Driver

BRITAIN'S TOP 10 POLLUTANTS

Dr David Ball of the Environmental Risk Assessment Unit at the University of East Anglia says there is no consensus as to which pollutants pose the greatest dangers to our health.

"There are pollutants that other people perceive as a risk which I do not — such as nitrates in water, PCBs, dioxins from incinerators and low-level nuclear waste," says Ball, who compiled our list. "On the other hand, I have included atmospheric gases, because we are overloading the atmosphere; and although radon is not a pollutant as such, human activity has led to it becoming concentrated and dangerous to health. I have also included lead because this will be with us for a long time."

1 Atmospheric greenhouse and trace gases from fuel combustion, evaporation of chemicals, and agriculture. The gases, including carbon dioxide and methane, are leading to global climate changes with unknown consequences.

2 Halogenated solvents from toxic and non-toxic waste disposal. If ground water is contaminated by these and other industrial chemicals it can give rise to cancer risks.

3 Antibiotics from medical and veterinary usage. Inappropriate use has led to development of bacterial strains which can no longer be effectively treated by antibiotics. Wound infections and septicemia are increasing.

4 Radon from naturally occurring radioactive gas, which can become concentrated in buildings. Average indoor exposure presents a lifetime risk of lung cancer.

5 Noise and vibration from traffic and the modern urban environment has a psychological impact.

6 Nitrogen dioxide mainly from oxidation of nitric oxide which, in turn, is produced by motor vehicles, combustion plants and, indoors, by unvented combustion appliances such as gas cookers. The effects on individuals is likely to be small, although a large part of the population is exposed. Causes lung damage, especially for asthmatics and bronchitis.

7 Lead from ingestion of contaminated dust, paint, food and water. Car emissions are declining due to unleaded petrol. Affects the central nervous system and possibly blood pressure; thought to reduce intelligence and cause abnormal behaviour. Pre-school children are at greatest risk.

8 Environmental tobacco smoke from involuntary inhalation. Passive smoking gives rise to some risk of lung cancer in non-smokers.

9 Pathogenic organisms discharged into the rivers and sea from sewage. Contains viruses which cause enteric infections.

10 Photochemical oxidants from atmospheric chemical reactions involving nitrogen oxide and hydrocarbons emitted from various fuel combustion sources, especially vehicles, industrial processes and solvent evaporation. Evidence suggests a doubling of background ozone concentration over the past century, with a risk of chest and respiratory tract problems.

Sara Driver



Jacqueline Glass and children: "I take vitamins C, E and beta carotene, and ginseng when I need a boost"

VITAMINS AND NO BEEF IN HEALTH CONSCIOUS EAST ANGLIA

Jacqueline Glass, aged 35, lives in the village of Holbrook in East Anglia — said to be the healthiest region in the UK. She moved there from London three years ago, but is not sure that her present home is any healthier than her last one. "Farming in East Anglia is particularly intensive, and the results of that are unhealthy as far as I am concerned. Because of pollution people couldn't swim in the river or play water sports on the reservoir last summer."

Glass keeps chickens and tries to eat home-grown, chemical-free produce whenever possible. She prefers to drink mineral water rather than risk tap water, which has been shown in the past to have high levels of nitrates. "We haven't had beef for months because of worries about mad cow disease, and the thought of scrapie is putting me off lamb."

She two young children have orange juice and cod liver oil every morning, and fluoride tablets for their teeth. "I take vitamins C, E and beta carotene, and ginseng when I need a boost. It's difficult to say if these things are making us healthier — we don't know how healthy we would have been if we didn't bother."

"A large proportion of the housekeeping money goes on fruit, although they don't buy apples or apple juice because of fears about sprays.

She and Julian Fookes, her partner, have cut down from daily drinking to an occasional drink at weekends, and neither of them smokes. "I find that I have so much more energy the next day if I don't drink. Even a couple of glasses of wine seem to make a difference. I have just started meditating for half an hour before I go to bed. I enjoy just sitting there doing something for myself."



Nigel Webster: "I have cut down my drinking now to a pint or two a night, but that's just part of maturing"

GLOOM LIFTING IN THE HEART-DISEASE CAPITAL, GLASGOW

Nigel Webster, aged 27, has no intention of moving out of Glasgow, even if it is the unhealthiest part of Britain and the heart-disease capital of the world. "It doesn't take much imagination to see why Glasgow is so unhealthy," he says. "You just have to stand in the middle of one of the most deprived estates. People living there don't give a damn about their health; they're more concerned with finding the money to feed the kids, getting the damp walls sorted out, and leaving the neighbourhood. Food, cigarettes and drink are what make their lives worthwhile."

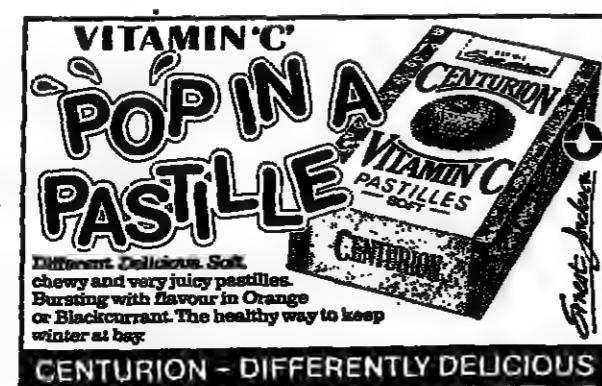
However, Webster, co-owner of a sports equipment shop, says he feels his own health has improved since he was in his teens. "I smoked 20 cigarettes a day and drank several pints most nights when I was at college, and I did no exercise. I tried five-a-side football

and had to give up because it made me feel so ill. Five years ago I started to play badminton to improve my fitness, and three years ago I realized I would never play well unless I stopped smoking, so I did. I have cut down my drinking to a pint or two a night, but that didn't involve a conscious effort. It is part of maturing. You know how you are going to feel next day if you over-indulge."

"I drink a lot of fruit juice, and I think my diet is healthy enough. I would like to get involved with hill-walking, because from Glasgow you have access to some of the most beautiful countryside you can imagine. I think Glasgow is very aware of its poor health record, and things are getting better in terms of sports amenities and the raising of awareness. We have lost a lot of our heavy industry, and I imagine the air is cleaner than many places in the Midlands."

TOMORROW

Does marriage damage your health? The case for and against our most crucial relationship



Today, we know that healthy eating and regular exercise can contribute much towards our general health — especially as the years go by!

But you may not know that garlic is highly regarded for its general health benefits too. And that Höfels Garlic Pearles are also considered to be an ideal, traditional herbal remedy for coughs, colds and catarrh.

Höfels — GARLIC SPECIALISTS

With the normal quantities used in cooking, you may not reap the full health benefits garlic offers. And you may need as many as six of some dried garlic tablets to provide the equivalent of just one clove. In contrast, Höfels concentrate the "essential oil" from THREE garlic cloves to make one easy-to-swallow garlic "pearle".

HÖFELS • GARLIC • PEARLES

SOCIALE, "LOW-ODOUR" PEARLES

Taken with a meal, our pearls are virtually tasteless and odourless. And because they dissolve in the stomach, the goodness can be easily absorbed into the bloodstream.

HÖFELS ONE-A-DAY PEARLES — GOOD VALUE

Höfels traditional One-A-Day Pearles are highly respected by many users — including nutritionists. So when you want the benefits of a garlic supplement, remember health care begins with Höfels.

Available at most branches of Boots Holland & Barrett chemists and health stores

Höfels
Health Supplements
Made From Nature

THE BENEFITS
• SPEAK FOR
THEMSELVES

HERE'S AN ASTHMATIC CHILD FIGHTING FOR BREATH

Asthma is a killer. Every year over 2,000 people die as they gasp for breath. More than 2 million people suffer. Many of them are children and it can be very frightening for them.

But we can help. Especially now that the Asthma Research Council has joined forces with the Asthma Society to form a bigger, stronger charity. It's called the National Asthma Campaign.

We're determined to find a cure for asthma and stop one in ten of our children suffering. But we desperately need your help. So please fill in the coupon and help a child to breathe.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

I'd like to join the National Asthma Campaign (£3)

I'd like to make a donation to research £1.18

£10 £20 £50 Other £

Or change my Visa/Access/Amex a/c No.

£ _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms Other _____

Address _____

Please return to National Asthma Campaign, FREEPOST, 300 Upper Street, London N1 2BR. Reg Charity No 802364

NATIONAL ASTHMA CAMPAIGN

TIMES DIARY

ALAN HAMILTON

For the first time since King Michael was forced out at gunpoint by the communists in 1948, an immediate member of the Romanian royal family returns to Bucharest today to see for herself the destruction wrought by the Ceausescu years. Princess Margarita, Michael's 40-year-old eldest daughter — and strongest candidate for her to the throne should it ever be restored — plans to travel round the country with her younger sister, Princess Sophie; to evaluate what needs to be done to restore some of its wrecked architectural heritage. It will be the first time either woman has ever seen Romania; both were born in the West after their father's enforced departure. Part of their plan, I suspect, is to deflect any monarchical limeight from Prince Paul, who flew in last week on a somewhat farcical mercy mission. Paul, son of King Michael's half-brother, is regarded by the real royals as an interloper on the regal scene. Such internecine rivalry, I fear, will not improve anyone's chances of recovering the throne.

Talking of statues, as Master Levin is doing just east of here, how many of Stalin are left standing in Eastern Europe? Demolishing hated symbols of the old regime and smashing them to bits has become a major industry. But the citizens of the Czechoslovak town of Zabrech are being altogether more clever, indeed capitalist, about their 15ft sandstone monument to Uncle Joe, recently removed from the town centre by popular demand. They are offering it for sale to collectors, believing it to be one of the last of its kind still intact. The Civil Forum committee implores me to bring this to your attention, and suggests bids start at \$50,000. It tells me: "This money will be used for social purposes, especially for equipment of local hospitals. The new owner will have not only a unique curiosity but he will support the struggle of Czech people for renewal of their democracy. Serious bidders may contact me for further details."

• An Iranian visiting Azerbaijan recently was awakened in his Baku hotel room at 3am by the manageress bearing vodka and wishing to show solidarity with the Islamic revolution. Two good reasons there for the holy men of Tehran to keep their distance.

Sting, the British rock star, has been in Brazil adding his voice to the protests against an estimated 45,000 illegal gold prospectors who have invaded the land of the Yanomami Indians in the Amazon basin. Representing his own Rainforest Foundation, Sting had an audience this week with the Brazilian president, Jose Sarney, who announced that 18,000 of the intruders had been persuaded to move off without a shot being fired. I don't, however, know which parts of his repertoire Sting performed to frighten them away.

BARRY FANTONI



Two final winners in my Christmas contest to provide an item suitable for this column ten years hence. A bottle of The Glenlivet single malt whisky to Peter Taberner of Bristol for: "The Archbishop of Canterbury, speaking at the recent AGM synod of Church of England plc, said she was disappointed by the failure of the flotation of Durham Cathedral, but a refinancing deal with Cardinal Noriega, President of the Vatican Bank, had recently been successfully concluded. Following the Mass walk-out earlier this year, the white collar union representing vicars and curates had agreed a pay deal in line with inflation, currently 12.5%."

And another to Peter Fleming of St Helens for: "Lord Branson of Bratislava got himself into hot water yesterday with his latest hot-air balloon, which is a full-scale model of Canterbury Cathedral (by arrangement with Dr Madge Tapscott, the Archibishop of Canterbury, of course). Richard hovered too low over the M1 motorway near Milton Keynes, frightening 24 Clydesdales which were pulling a Euro-Juggernaut. All three southbound bridgeways were blocked, causing long delays. Queues stretched as far back as the Nescob Hall service area at Watford Gap. Branson later apologized to travellers by heliogram."

My thanks to all who took part.

If you should happen by a cinema showing *Mystic Pizza*, buy a ticket and see this engaging film. I was particularly taken by a minor actor called The Fireside Gourmet: a bearded phoney with a modulated English accent who has a weekly TV spot in which he assesses restaurants. There were two aspects of his performance that disturbed me: first he played the part as if he were Donald Sinden but was not Donald Sinden and Donald Sinden is alive and well and would almost certainly have played it better; secondly I was on my way home before I realized that what had bothered me is that the language of gastro-criticism is not for speaking. I opened a food guide at random:

"Not only the epitome of outstanding cuisine but a seminal establishment whence celebrated chefs have saluted forth to delight our palates." A study in refinement and presentation further enhanced by well-instructed waiters. Food of distinction served in the stylish lobby-lounge featuring splendidly ornate lofty ceiling mouldings while pastoral motifs adorn the murals. The book-lined bar is conducive to straining the mood in which to enjoy the well-balanced menu featuring such eclectic delights as *foie gras* in Savoy cabbage."

What has gone wrong with the food writing business is that there is nothing new to write about, so that scribes publish ever more convoluted assessments of eateries, usually written in the light of

the recent discussion of pay awards has a depressingly familiar ring. Ford is said to be setting a "going rate" of over 10 per cent which will be followed by others, not only in manufacturing. "Pay explosion," scream the headlines. Ministers urge restraint and warn of the consequences of irresponsibility.

For the best part of 30 years successive governments sought to cajole employers towards a set figure for annual pay rises regardless of whether they had been earned or not. The result was a low-pay, low-productivity economy slipping inexorably down the league table of international competitiveness. The norm became an entitlement.

Only since the trading sector broke free of the going-rate mentality have we started to regain international competitiveness. Employers are constantly balancing the need to pay no more — and no less — than is required to attract and keep the necessary skills and commitment against the need to remain cost-competitive.

With the price of manufactured goods in the shops rising by around 4 per cent per year, it is clear that such a balance can be achieved only with improved performance. Since 1980, man-

facturing productivity in Britain has risen by some 60 per cent overall, though with widely varying performances. The CBI's Pay Databank shows that employers expect to achieve further substantial improvements, on average of about 6 per cent, this year.

CBI data show that during the first half of the 1980s at least two-thirds of all firms linked pay to productivity, and the trend has continued since. Employment has risen to record levels, and, according to a recent consumer survey, there has been a perceived improvement in the quality of British-made goods. Export revenues (excluding oil) have been particularly buoyant; Britain's share of world manufactured exports is now rising, probably for the first time this century. It is not generally recognized that we export more, per head of population, than Japan.

All this shows what can be achieved when employers are free to build pay structures that

suit their circumstances, and to pursue wage settlements that are financed by real improvements in performance. And at least one manufacturer in this is still achieving productivity improvements that outstrip the corresponding pay settlements.

To say this is not to underestimate the difficulties of maintaining progress towards an internationally competitive manufacturing base, which holds the key to redressing our balance of payments deficit and curbing inflation. With poorer prospects for growth in the domestic market, manufacturers are having to redouble their export efforts to cover investment costs under a high interest rate regime. Since mid-1988, when interest rates took off, employers have also been grappling with inflationary pressures.

Despite the improvement, the link between pay and performance is still not strong enough to ensure that in all cases unit labour costs fall year by year, as

they must in a competitive world. If they do not, the result will be fewer jobs. That is why the CBI emphasizes that pay rises must always be linked to improved productivity. There can be only one going rate.

It is for unit labour costs. And our international competitiveness have ensured that it must be negative.

Any manufacturer who fails to understand that pay increases need to be financed by improved performance is not likely to survive for long in the new decade. But more of the nation's wealth creators will actively flourish if four conditions are met.

To pay must reflect performance in the public and private services as well as in manufacturing. It is noteworthy that throughout the ambulance dispute there has been almost no discussion of improving the performance of the ambulance services in terms of patient care, vehicle and staff utilization, cost per patient-mile and the like. The problem may

well not be that ambulance staff are paid too little; they may simply not be paid what they ought to be worth.

We must avoid those inflationary own-goals which result in headline inflation of about 8 per cent while the price of goods in the shops is rising only half as fast. Unnecessary increases in local business rates, electricity and water charges — not to mention borrowing costs — fuel wage demands (through their impact on the Retail Price Index) as well as adding to cost pressures directly. Such over-goals cannot be afforded under any circumstances, particularly the present.

The momentum of investment — in skills and innovation as well as in the infrastructure and new production capacity — must be maintained. The underlying cause of our inflationary tendencies is generally agreed: the lack of savings and investment, and excessive consumption on the back of a speculative

Ronald Butt

Keep cool on Hong Kong

speech", the Rushdie affair has produced intellectual torture.

In his article on Azerbaijan on this page yesterday, Tamara Dragadze declared that although some call the conflict there ethnic, "it is really a territorial dispute". But all ethnic disputes are ultimately about territory, and if territory were not an issue in some sense there would be no dispute. It is natural for human beings to want to live in a broadly homogeneous culture on a shared territory. (Small minorities are more easily tolerated than large.)

The question struck me again on reading the terms in which Julian Critchley, in *The Observer* last Sunday, discussed Norman Tebbit's position on the Government's plan to give British citizenship to 225,000 selected people from Hong Kong.

Critchley, who sits on a large Tory majority as MP for Aldershot, luxuriates in the political independence of a backbencher who knows that if he ever had a baton in his knapsack he lost it long ago while exercising his Caucus wit against Mrs Thatcher. Asking the question "What's Norm up to?" he answered by suggesting that Hong Kong could be Tebbit's chance of a lifetime. ("What price the Yellow Peril?") Could working-class Tebbit have latched on to immigration and race, the one issue giving him "a separate identity", to further his ambition to succeed Mrs Thatcher? Many, according to Critchley, think so. He ends by saying that Tebbit "will not be forgotten if he stirs up the mud on the race issue".

Yet if Tebbit does indeed represent a constituency in the country, what is wrong with that provided he genuinely agrees with it? All good politics are grounded on consent and should have regard to what the majority of the people want. It never pays to trick them, which is precisely what has happened over immigration for the past 30 years. If the people had been told straight the size and consequences of the immigration that was in store it is inconceivable they would have accepted it. Instead the prospective "figures were repeatedly underestimated and the likely consequences camouflaged.

Suppose the consequences could have been seen in a crystal ball: that an essentially alien enclave with little point of contact with the native culture would be statistically dominant in large urban areas; that there would be many schools where the British cultural and linguistic elements were in a minority; that sometimes this would create educational disadvantage for those whose home language was English; that teachers who drew attention to this would be sacked, as were some who were accused of "colonialism" because they taught English instead of "multi-culturalism".

Suppose it could have been foreseen that Salman Rushdie would still be in hiding after a year because of a death sentence from a religious leader which some Muslims in this country seem unwilling to condemn in a forthright way. For some "liberals" who have opposed every practical attempt to limit immigration, as well as standing for total permissiveness in "free political refugees".

Nothing that is suggested now is very relevant to what would happen if there were a potential flood after 1997. That is the ultimate question and it would be a world problem. In the meantime, when the Government's Bill is ready, it must be discussed honestly and on the basis of its consequences, without any dangers and false accusations of racism.

Mockery that helped topple an empire

I must be splendid to be a citizen of Czechoslovakia today, despite the difficulties, hardships and dangers that have inevitably accompanied the Eastern Revolution. But one form of rejoicing must particularly warm the heart of every free spirit there: the glorious work of pulling down and smashing the statues and portraits of the tyrants who set their persecutors as victors over them. But I hope somebody — President Havel will surely see the point — is at this moment commissioning a bust of The Good Soldier Svejk. If you do not know who the Good Soldier Svejk is (you may know him as Schweik), you have a jolly time coming; if you do know, you are having a jolly time already.

Jaroslav Hasek was literally as well as metaphorically a Bohemian; but it was the metaphorical side which led to his countless adventures in his various roles as drunkard, fraud, rioter, anarchist, practical joker, blackmailer, journalist, pauper, lunatic, would-be suicide, soldier, malingerer, deserter, linguist, Bolshevik and genius. The book he wrote chronicled the adventures in the First World War of his magnificently unheroic hero, Svejk (much of Svejk's character and escapades are based on Hasek's own life), and the work is deeply, passionately, wittily and devastatingly subversive. Subversive, that is, of order, religion, authority, respectability and propriety. I would not be surprised to learn that it was banned throughout the years of Czechoslovakia's *via crucis*.

If it wasn't, it should have been: Svejk sums up his political philosophy by saying "An empire as idiotic as this one doesn't deserve to exist." He meant, of course, the Austro-Hungarian, but it was even more apt to the Soviet hegemony, and the ribaldry with which the book is filled should have put the Soviet struts on their guard.

This flawed but immortal masterpiece was translated into English during the Second World War, which was when I, as a schoolboy, discovered and relived in it. It figured, by a bizarre trick of fate, in the *Lady Chatterley* trial. That wonderful booby, Mervyn Griffith-Jones, suggested that Penguin could have published *Chatterley* without the rude bits (what he called "the b*st*ds"). Allen Lane gently pointed out that Penguin's rule was never to expurgate or cut the books they published, but Griffith-Jones said that *Schweik* (the German spelling, used in the Penguin version) had been abridged, whereupon Lane, even more gently, explained that government regulations controlling paper (very scarce in the war) had made it impossible to publish it in its entirety. Mind you, if Griffith-Jones had actually read it, he would have been tempted to sling it into the dock alongside Lawrence, for there are some of his "b*st*ds" in it, to say nothing of the most appalling blasphemy.

In the early Seventies, a retired diplomat, Sir Cecil Parrott, set himself to put Hasek's masterpiece on its proper plane, which is where Rabelais stands, beside *Tristram Shandy* and *Penguin Island*. His labours in this work are beyond praise: first, he translated the entire book, which must amount to some 350,000 words; next, he wrote a biography of Hasek, under the title *The Bad Bohemian*; finally, he produced a comprehensive critical study of Hasek's work.

I was always unlikely that Svejk (the Czech spelling, which Parrott preferred) will ever be forgotten, but with the monument that Parrott built him, it is quite certain that he will not. Hasek was fortunate in having an artist friend, Josef Lada who (after Hasek's death) drew the pictures with which the book is adorned, and it is impossible for anyone who has read it, and seen Lada's drawings, ever to imagine Svejk looking like anything else. (Alas, Parrott died in 1984, or we should surely have had still more Svejkiana.)



Bernard Levin suggests a tangible memorial to the idle, lying, cheating anarchist whose deeds lit Czechoslovakia's years of darkness

Svejk's technique for keeping out of trouble — or, more exactly, for *getting out of trouble* — is to assume the guise of an imbecile, though in truth he is stifled with cunning, the cunning of the shrewd and wily poor, which has through the centuries defeated many numbers of bureaucrats, policemen, employers, officers and dictators. The book, indeed, starts at exactly that point: Svejk is arrested for speaking directly about the emperor, and in no time has persuaded the psychiatrists that he is an idiot, for the lunatic asylum rather than prison. His description of his time there gives an immediate flavour of the book:

I really don't know why those lunatics get so angry when they're kept there. You can crawl naked on the floor, howl like a jackal, rage and bite... A chap can pass himself off as God Almighty, the Virgin Mary, the Pope, the King of England, His Imperial Majesty or St Wenceslas... One chap even pretended to be St Cyril and St Methodius just to get a double portion... The wildest of them all was a gentleman who pretended to be the

first fine flourish, written off, revived, sunk and sought change of usage to become an estate agent's office. Each of these stages is accompanied by a different journalist, for there is no mileage in the *Daily Snout*'s man agreeing with anything penned by the *Sneak Out*.

Yet it remains the ambition of every food writer to discover, to be the first to find a place of quality and see his appreciation framed in the restaurant's window, his name on the display advertisements. Well, I have discovered a place. A place that no one else has found, that whose name has never appeared in print. It is a haven of culinary



CLEMENT FREUD

page of *The Sunday Sport*, and when it comes to catering establishments it is a minor miracle to find anywhere that has not already been praised, condemned, noticed to have lost its

originality and excellence — missed by the entire profession, of which I was once a member.

The food is exciting, the atmosphere relaxed (it is so often the other way round), and an immaculate starter of beautiful goat's cheese on a bed of fresh spinach, rocket and chicory in an inspired dressing costs £2.95. Spinach Torelli dressed with slivers of smoked salmon served in a cream and lemon sauce costs £2.95 as well, does wonderfully fresh grilled tuna fish on a bed of haricot beans spiced with red onion and olive oil. The same price gets you as perfect a *tarte de citron* with caramelized orange and Cointreau as you will find in

the metropolis. Each dish comes in a closed straw basket perched on other closed straw baskets — the sort of container in which you would expect to find Chinese dim-sum. Olive bread is hot and freshly baked and costs £1. House wine is £5.50 and Beck's beer comes in tankards that have rested in the deep freeze.

How is it, do I hear readers ask, that you found this amazing establishment of which no one else has made mention? I have to admit, with customary modesty, that I have a nose for these things. Also I might have been lucky: the place opened on Monday, which is a boon to a man who writes his column on Wednesday for Thursday. Its address is 67 Fulham Road, SW6 (telephone 371 9673); open 6pm to midnight Monday to Saturday, and for weekend

At last I scoop the fat-pack



CLEMENT FREUD

page of *The Sunday Sport*, and when it comes to catering establishments it is a minor miracle to find anywhere that has not already been praised, condemned, noticed to have lost its



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

PATERNAL RESPONSIBILITY

The steady rise in the incidence of marital breakdown and a change in social and sexual mores have combined to make single-parenthood, once very uncommon, almost the rule in certain parts of Britain. It is usually the father who is absent; and increasingly, absent fathers are failing to meet their moral and legal obligations to support the family for which they are still responsible.

The Prime Minister, in the course of a general and welcome statement on the importance of defending family life last night, signalled her intention to raise the pressure on errant fathers to meet these obligations. For some time voices have been heard in the Conservative Party calling for a new approach to the question. It is an issue on which the Government cannot help being involved, as it is to statutory agencies funded by the taxpayer that single parents have to look, once an absent father defaults on his financial responsibilities. If personal morality has failed – and it is difficult to think of a more blatant moral failure than that of a father who refuses to support his own child – the State has the right to look to coercion instead.

It is appalling that only about a quarter of absent fathers now contribute to the maintenance of their children. There are reasons for thinking that the present arrangement for the provision of social security benefit for single mothers does actually encourage some fathers to try to avoid their responsibilities. They know that if they fail, the State will provide instead. It is not that difficult, and the tactics of evasion and procrastination are easily picked up. The present means for collecting maintenance payments have proved seriously inadequate, therefore, and may in some cases actually increase poverty among lone mothers with young children.

The difficulty of shaping Government policy is that it would not be acceptable, nor more than marginally effective, to try to discourage fathers from avoiding their financial duty by penalizing their children, that is to say by cutting benefit in the hope that their fathers

would make good the shortfall. Such children are deprived enough already, and Mrs Thatcher's expression of heartfelt concern for them last night was at least as much that of a mother and grandmother as of a Prime Minister. To that extent the Government is in a cleft stick, and knows it.

If the need for a system of benefit support for single-parent families is sacrosanct, however, the system for collecting and enforcing maintenance payments from the absent fathers themselves is not. The present method is cumbersome, inefficient and increasingly ineffective. It dates from the time when the problem was far less widespread, and social conventions were different. The ultimate weapon of collecting maintenance through the attachment of earnings by means of a court order, has shown itself to be too easily defeated.

At present the law treats maintenance as a civil debt, as if the only parties with an interest were the parents and the children. In fact, because the State has to step in when a parent fails, it too has a direct and major interest, and the law should recognize it by treating maintenance, at least once there is default in payment, as a debt owed to the State, in other words like a fine or statutory compensation payable after a criminal conviction. In that way the State would be able to recover with the one hand at least some of what it was paying out with the other.

An approach similar to that is already working successfully in Australia. Whether it would be possible to combine it with the income tax system is an issue likely to be studied further by a special inquiry set up by the Secretary of State for Social Services, Mr Tony Newton. But that is a detail: what is important to note, pending the completion of that study, is that the Government has got the principles right. It must be brought home to the absent fathers themselves that the support of their children and, where appropriate, the children's mother, is not an option but a primary duty.

YESTERDAY'S HAND

"It is as if a changing world had created openings for those driven by vanity and for would-be statesmen seeking to play yesterday's hand." M. Jacques Delors excelled himself before the European Parliament yesterday. His targets were, all too predictably, the British Prime Minister and those in West Germany who, "alarmed by developments on the Continent, are being tempted to play a more national card."

As a former socialist finance minister who now has ambitions to succeed President Mitterrand, M. Delors is perhaps not best qualified to take others to task for their lack of modesty or their hackneyed ideas. Self-importance is not, however, invariably a sign of insignificance. M. Delors is, after all, President of the European Commission, and he had a serious point to make about the constitutional mechanism of the Community. He wants his Commission to be transformed into the executive of "the future federation", led by a president with "genuine power to influence the choice" of the commissioners. According to M. Delors, events in Central Europe must on no account be allowed to impinge upon the Community's central goal: political union of the present 12 member states.

The notion of turning the Commission into the executive of a far more powerful Strasbourg legislature is not, of course, a new one; it is, translated into the language of Montesquieu, roughly what Mrs Thatcher meant by the "European super-state". Since the controversy occasioned by her Bruges speech, M. Delors has had ample time to present a detailed case for the transfer of sovereign powers to Brussels and Strasbourg.

Yesterday he had a golden opportunity to do so in a very long address before his future legislators. It contained not a single concrete proposal for the transfer of specific powers from the Council of Ministers or the national

parliaments, still less any justification of such a transfer. M. Delors merely trotted out his pet principle of "subsidiarity" – the idea that no task should be carried out by central authority if it can be better accomplished by a more localized one. The important question of whether the application of the principle should fall to the Community or to the national parliaments he left unanswered.

His speech will confirm many in their doubts about whether those who are at present entranced with redesigning the Community are of the same calibre as its first great architects. It is one thing to frame windy declarations which rely heavily on possibly specious analogies between the division of powers at national level and the relationship between the institutions of a supranational organization. It is another to demonstrate wisdom and foresight in providing for the uncertain future of nations whose horizons are now incomparably wider than they were a year ago.

Apart from their vagueness, the greatest single objection to the constitutional amendments proposed by M. Delors is the air of unreality which continues to suffuse the European Parliament – "loyal as it is", as he himself put it, "to the Spinelli philosophy." It is mysterious that the Strasbourg Assembly should allow the charge to stick that it is loyal to the ideas, now partially overtaken by events, of the late Italian communist.

The Parliament of Westminster, like those of all West European countries, would angrily disown any imputation of a corporate "philosophy" as narrowly defined as this. The European Parliament, if it is to deserve its imposing title, must represent the full spectrum of opinion across the Community. It should not be afraid to subject the President of the Commission to the cross-examination which he will have to expect if his dreams are ever realized.

SAILORS BEWARE

Military chiefs of staff at their seminar in Vienna should brace themselves for a Soviet attempt to salvage the issue of maritime arms control. It was sunk by President Bush last month at his summit with President Gorbachov of Malta. Next time he may find it more difficult to dispatch.

Nato's reliance on seapower has been total. It has thus been in the interests of the West to preserve its naval superiority at all costs – and just as clearly in Russia's interests to contain it. These perceptions have been reflected by arms control contacts during the last 20 years, including the Stockholm conference on confidence-building measures and the Conventional Forces in Europe talks in Vienna. At every point the Russians have demanded (with little success) that maritime forces be fully covered by the treaty.

To introduce naval disarmament into the CFE negotiations would certainly be a mistake. It would raise such a range of complex issues that movement in other directions would be stalled. But Norway, Turkey and Iceland are among allied countries now said to be interested in beginning a naval dialogue. Last week, moreover, no less a figure than Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the US joint chiefs of staff until three months ago, seemed to agree with them.

Ironically, Nato's dependence on its navies should grow as a result of CFE. A reduction of US forces on the Continent will make it seem more necessary than ever that they could cross the Atlantic safely in a crisis. Nato admirals have indeed been looking forward to a kind of golden age for Western fleets. Cuts agreed in tanks and aircraft should leave navies with a bigger share of defence budgets, and the diminution of the threat in Europe might redirect interest towards outside-Nato operations. This implies a need for oceangoing

vessels, but that could prove to be wishful thinking.

The argument for entering structured East-West negotiations over navies is that savings forced upon Nato by politicians could be balanced against reductions in the Soviet Union. If the Royal Navy should find itself with fewer ships to defend the Atlantic sea-lanes for example, then it makes sense to negotiate a cut in the number of Soviet submarines which threaten them.

The Russian negotiating position is not a strong one. Not only is Mr Gorbachov under self-imposed pressure to divert funds from military to civil investment, but the Soviet Navy will shortly face block obsolescence because of its sudden expansion in the 1970s. To maintain its present strength, let alone increase it, it will have to find more funds not less.

Naval cuts are inevitably still some way ahead. They would take a long time to negotiate even if talks could be started tomorrow. The problems of verification alone are huge. For Nato at this stage to risk severing its lifeline, moreover, would be rash.

There is scope, however, to explore a range of confidence-building measures which might prepare the way for a rational reappraisal of the balance. Such measures might include notification of manoeuvres and a mutual exchange of data on equipment. These could lead to savings in planning and deployment and should be negotiable without too much loss of life.

At the same time naval chiefs in Washington and in London should start considering not just the size but the shape and character of their fleets. Both the balance between submarines and surface escorts and the number of landing ships and aircraft carriers will need re-examining in the changing circumstances.

POLL TAX BURDEN ON THE PARISH

From Sir Michael Bunbury

Sir, In the plan for implementing the community charge, the plight of certain parish councils appears to have been overlooked.

Rendlesham is a small parish in Suffolk. It is dominated in every way by the United States Air Force base at Bentwaters. Associated with the military facilities are over 300 houses leased by USAF servicemen. That other part of Rendlesham not directly adjacent to the airbase consists of 46 houses – and indeed some of these are occupied by USAF personnel.

Under the rating system, the parish council has been entitled to levy a penny rate on the military facilities and the 300-plus houses occupied by USAF personnel, as well as the houses occupied by UK residents. Under the community charge, the parish council will receive no income from the military facilities nor from the houses occupied by USAF personnel. We estimate that we will lose over 95 per cent of our income.

If the Rendlesham parish council chooses to replace that income, without which it will be difficult for it to function as a body to represent the residents of Rendlesham, we are advised by the Department of the Environment that we have to levy a community charge on the estimated 140 unfortunate British residents of Rendlesham.

Thus those British residents will have to pay for the work forced on to the parish council by the presence of the USAF airbase and its USAF personnel who, from April 1, 1990, contribute nothing to the parish council's income. That despite the fact that, for example, seven out of eight planning applications in Rendlesham relate to matters associated with the USAF presence.

From April 1, 1990, the Government itself will take over the parish council's ability to levy a rate on the military facilities and will negotiate a payment in lieu of community charge from the USAF. In exceptional cases, this council believes that the Government should be prepared to return part of that negotiated payment to the council.

With only just two months to go until the introduction of the community charge, and in the week that Parliament is to debate the funding of local government, we seek to draw your attention to a particular anomaly and unfairness which must affect tens, if not hundreds, of parish councils around the country.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BUNBURY (Chairman,
Rendlesham Parish Council),
Naunton Hall,
Rendlesham,
Woodbridge, Suffolk.

January 16.

From Miss D. M. A. Ingram

In reply to Canon Henderson's letter (January 13) I have a problem of a Trinitarian nature. I declared my name in full – i.e., three Christian names and surname. Imagine my surprise when I received three letters from the council, each addressed to a different Christian name and registering me as three people for the poll tax.

Perhaps Canon Henderson can offer me some theological advice. Yours faithfully,
DOROTHEA INGRAM, 6 Westhorne Road, Putney, SW15.

January 13.

YRE AT THE NATIONAL

From Mr Robert Hardy

Sir, In an article on the Arts page (January 10) National Theatre director, Richard Eyre, talking to Sheridan Morley, is reported as looking forward to rivalry with the Royal Shakespeare Company, "even if we do end up chasing the same few actors and directors who are still willing to work for our kind of money". He is also quoted as believing that "most actors are now sucked into rich cinema lives; and they just don't want to do live theatre badly enough to risk the reviews without even the compensation of good money".

I suggest to Mr Eyre that there never was a time in British theatre when more talent, some of it of the highest order, could be seen to chase such few opportunities. Nor have I met more than a handful of performers who are really so fearful of theatre critics, or so beguiled by the phantasmagoria of "rich cinema lives", that they would seriously turn down the opportunity of artistically rewarding work in either of our two great national companies.

Mr Eyre is said to suppose that writers "still seem frightened by the wide open spaces of the Olivier". They are wisely frightened. I am afraid, since their words are so often lost in the spaces of that spread, unfocused auditorium, or in the wastes of the massive platform of the Olivier stage. The National Theatre organization and its performers battle courageously to fill the one, and minimize the disadvantages of the other.

I am, Sir, yours etc.,
ROBERT HARDY,
Upper Bolney House,
Upper Bolney,
Nr Henley on Thames,
Oxfordshire.

January 10.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number – (01) 782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Issues of authority in Europe

From Mrs G. Willson-Bardinet

Sir, Mr Norman Tebbit's article (January 9) was both timely and pertinent. On the one hand, the inevitable alignment of economic policies within the EC calls for comprehensive agreement and a modicum of efficient central planning; on the other, political developments throughout central and Eastern Europe demonstrate clearly the necessity for each national entity to have an honest and responsible elected assembly which is empowered to take measures reflecting the general will.

We should reflect on these two developments long and carefully. What heritage are we going to pass on to future generations? One of prosperity and humanity, we trust, but also one which takes into account the long centuries of representative government as practised in the British Isles, one in which the phrase, "write to your MP about it", still means something. Let us not forget that, unlike most of their counterparts who are elected as part of a national list, British MEPs have constituencies.

These Euro-constituencies were canvassed in many cases, extremely ably and fully last June. The apathy of the British general public must be considered a key ingredient in the lack of knowledge about who represents whom in Strasbourg and just what his or her mandate is. This is not a federation in the accepted meaning of the term; it is interesting that France, of all countries the most nationalistic, should – unlike British isolationists – see no danger in its acceptance from the European Community.

Since 1945 France has drawn up two very different constitutions for herself. Far from causing unease, the creation of new regulations and administrative bodies is seen by the French as an attractive and wholly worthwhile pursuit. *Quo homines, tot sententiae...*

Eminent French political personalities are at this very moment touring Eastern Europe to help in the apprenticeship of independent political organisation. Britain's institutions have great value too; their example has inspired countless lovers of freedom. We must make sure that our MEPs know what their electors think about this vital question, and if necessary we must insist that their key role be one of guaranteeing accountability, both in the European and national assemblies.

Yours etc.,

GILLIAN WILLSON-BARDINET,

21 rue St Honoré,
Versailles, France.

January 15.

From Mr George Chowdhary-Best

Sir, The difficulty with Mr Derek

Prag's argument (January 13) is

that we already have a "single,

central authority" in the shape of

the European Commission, which

has been steadily enlarging its

"confederal powers" – in Mr

Prag's words, "those powers which

have been granted to it" – by the

simple process of driving a coach

and horses through any Treaty of

Rome or other provisions which

limit them and then securing the

European Court's approval of

such treaty infringements (for that

is what they amount to).

Meanwhile, the really serious

problems which restrict com-

petition within Europe, such as

the artificially high air fares and

the absurd price differentials in

respect of cars between us and

other member-states referred to in

our excellent leading article

(January 13) remain unaddressed.

Yours faithfully,

G. CHOWDHARY-BEST,

27 Walpole Street, SW3.

January 15.

From Lord Gladwyn

Sir, Mr Tebbit may possibly have

judged himself into a corner! He

appears to think that "Europe

can only consist of a number of

totally independent nation-states

in a sort of free trade area

involving virtually no limitations

whatsoever on sovereignty. This

"Darwinian" conception of a sur-

vival of the fittest is in direct

contradiction to the principles

of the European Community.

Yours faithfully,



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM

January 16: The Queen was represented by His Excellency Sir Nicholas Spreckley (High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur) at the Funeral of His Excellency Dato' Mok Bin Jamaluddin (High Commissioner for Malaysia) which was held in Petaling Jaya, Selangor, this evening.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

January 17: The Duchess of York, Patron of the Combined Services Winter Sports Association, this morning received the Chairman of the Alpine Committee (Major General Graham Hollands) at Buckingham Palace.

The Princess Royal, Patron, the British Nutrition Foundation, this morning visited the Foundation's office at 15 Belgrave Square, London.

The Hon. Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

In the afternoon Her Royal

Highness, Chancellor, University of London, attended a Presentation Ceremony at the Royal Albert Hall.

The Princess Royal, Lady Livermore, the Worshipful Company of Woolmen, attended the Alma Court Dinner at Tallow Chanders' Hall, Dowgate Hill, London.

Mrs Malcolm Innes was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

January 17: The Princess of Wales visited the Chinese Arts Centre, 36 Charlotte Street, Mayfair.

Subsequently Her Royal Highness opened the Nightingale Centre for Breast Screening at Withington Hospital, West Didsbury, Manchester.

Finally The Princess of Wales, Patron, Royal National Marriage Guidance, visited Manchester Relate at 346 Chester Road, Cheadle, Manchester.

Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and Lieutenant Commander Patrick Jephson, RN, were in attendance.

Dinners

Woolmen's Company

The Princess Royal, an Honorary Liverpan of the Woolmen's Company, attended the annual Alms Court dinner given by Dr John Scorey, Master, and the Wardens last night at Tallow Chanders' Hall, Mr Forbes Hayes, Mr Peter Lord, Dr Colin Davidson and Canon Maurice Ridgway were the

National Children's Home

The Prime Minister delivered the inaugural lecture of the National Children's Home. George Thomas Society at a dinner held last night at the Cafe Royal. Mr Neville Shulman, Patron and chairman of the society, presided. Mr John F. Gray, director of advocacy, NCH, also spoke. Among others present were:

The Ambassador of Sweden, the Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland and other members of the Royal Family. Dr John Rotheroe, the Earl of Portsmouth, the Earl of Stockton, Viscount and Baroness Lichfield, Lord Marchwood, Baroness Farnham, Sir Robert Head, Sheila Ahmed, Lord Vansittart, Mr and Mrs Michael and Mrs Cottrell, Mr Robin Gulland, Mr George Walker, Mervyn Hulme, Mr Tony Hulme, Mr Desmond Wilson and Miss Esther Riddick, Mr and Mrs John Craven, Mr and Mrs David and Mrs Brian Beck and Mr and Mrs Robert Evans.

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

Mr Richard Law, President of the Rural Practice division of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

Birthdays today

University news

Oxford

Lord Goff of Cheveley, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary and an honorary fellow of Lincoln College and of New College, is to succeed Lord Wilberforce as High Steward of Oxford University from October. Lord Wilberforce has held that office for almost 23 years.

Loughborough

Grants Dr M E Preston, Dr T G King and Professor G R Wray, £106,485 from SERC (piezoelectric high-speed activation recording discrete motion controlled drives).

Dr K C Parsons, £98,210 from MOD (scientific knowledge-based systems).

Stratcycide

Professor Howard Williams, of Newcastle University, has been appointed to the Rec-Computer Weekly chair in business computing at Stratcycide.

Heriot-Watt

Dr Roy Leitch, reader in the department of electrical and electronic engineering, has been appointed to a personal professorship.

Appointments

Latest appointments include: Mr Andrew Wilkes, formerly Curator of the Turner Collection, to be Keeper of the British Collection, Tate Gallery.

Church news

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has appointed the following as Honorary Canons of Canterbury Cathedral: The Rev John W Everett, Vicar, St Mary, Eastford; the Rev Norman H Woods, Vicar, St Leonard, Hythe; the Rev Gordon R D Macney, Vicar, St Mary of Charity, Faversham; and the Rev Jessie Sage, Agricultural Chaplain.

The Rev Michael Pagger-Wilkes, Vicar, St Matthew's, Rugby, diocese of Coventry, is to be Archdeacon of Warwick, same diocese, succeeding the Ven Peter Bridges, who retires this month.

Other appointments

The Rev Peter W Stump, Honorary Canon, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich, to be Honorary Chaplain of the Schools.

Some changes

The Rev Peter L Dodd, formerly Vicar, All Saints, St Albans, Hertfordshire, diocese of London, to be Vicar, St Michael, Southwark, diocese of London.

The Rev Michael Entwistle, Curate, St Margaret's, Whetstone, diocese of London, to be Vicar, St Michael, Southwark, diocese of London.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev David B Hartness, Diocesan Secretary, diocese of Gloucester-Demeter.

The Rev Frank E Harris, until recently Administrator of the Cathedral, diocese of New Castle, to be Vicar, St Mary, Whetstone, diocese of London.

The Rev Canon Christopher Curran, Canon Chancellor, diocese of Southwark, to be Anglican Chaplain, St Edmundsbury, Bishop's Stortford, diocese of Norwich.

Mrs T's Home help

Asked about the Home Office minister opposite him in 1987, Alf Dubs, Labour's immigration spokesman, declared: "It's a lousy job. But he's got nowhere else to go. He's not good enough."

It has proved one of the most spectacularly inaccurate predictions in recent politics. While Dubs that year lost his seat and disappeared without trace, David Waddington went on to become a highly successful Conservative chief whip. Then, in October, he was catapulted from a ranking outside the Cabinet to one of the three top offices of state as Home Secretary.

Few ministers can expect a harder year. Waddington will have to steer through the Commons the bill to give British passports to 225,000 Hong Kong citizens and he is responsible for the mammoth reforms of broadcasting. He will put his own mark on the criminal justice system with a white paper due this month and a green paper on the probation service soon after. He has to decide whether to legislate on Nazi war criminals in Britain and what to do about the right of the accused to silence.

Waddington is probably the first of Mrs Thatcher's Home Secretaries to share her gut instincts on law and order. His public image is that of a hardliner. He has always favoured the return of capital punishment and other pronouncements have helped to type him as a right-winger.

It was as a junior minister to Norman Tebbit at the Department of Employment, helping to put through the trade union law changes, that he declared of some of the Congress House barons:

"Clearly there are some very nasty people in positions of authority."

Mobbed by students at Manchester University in 1986 he declared famously: "If I was a parent of any one of those children I would put them across my knee and flog them." As immigration minister he was responsible for removing from MPs the right to put a stop on deportations of illegal immigrants while they made representations on their behalf, and for pushing through the Immigration Carriers Liability Act, penalising airlines who took the risk of bringing in would-be immigrants with less than perfect papers.

Waddington appeared, if not to relish the role, then at least not to

THE TIMES PROFILE

DAVID WADDINGTON

lose any sleep over it. But friends, and he has plenty in politics, say that there is an element of caricature in all this.

Any man who has had the two roles of immigration minister and chief whip runs the risk of being branded an authoritarian. And his image will suffer even more when family connections make him a mill-owner as well.

But during his stint in the immigration job, Waddington took obvious pleasure in having eased the subject out of the frontline of politics. At the Conservative conference in 1983 he was jeered by a few but succeeded in routing the repatriation lobby led by Harvey Proctor. And he took pains to establish and maintain good contacts with the leaders of ethnic communities.

It was partly his determination to keep immigration issues in the background of politics which led him to his arrival at the Home Office to oppose the Foreign Office plans for Hong Kong passports. He hoped the problem might be met instead by some sort of special entry clearance for key Hong Kong workers. But he accepts now that he was not only outvoted in Cabinet on the question but out-argued as well and that his plan was made a non-starter the moment Labour said it would refuse to honour any such arrangements.

Becoming Home Secretary has forced him into a few more adjustments. The former chief whip is now a little shamed about how often he used to

complain to senior ministers that they did not put in enough time at the Commons. As one who prepares meticulously for his eight or nine meetings a day, he now finds it hard to get to the House himself. And though he has not changed his views on capital punishment, he is beginning to find them something of a bind because they are the one subject interviewers want to raise. And he accepts that hanging will not return, pointing out that there has been a majority against it in the Commons since the war.

What makes Waddington particularly valuable to Mrs Thatcher as Home Secretary is that he represents, as many of his Cabinet colleagues do not, an authentic regional voice. He is deeply rooted in his constituency of Ribble Valley (formerly Clitheroe).

When he lost the traditionally Labour seat of Nelson and Colne in 1974 he did not go carpetbagging looking for another constituency and would not have contemplated resuming his political career outside Lancashire.

Instead, the seat came to him: the sitting member where he lived died young and Clitheroe was

accused him as a right-winger. His wife, Gilly, one of the most effervescent and approachable of political wives (her father, too, was an MP), who admits that she could gossip for England, is closely involved in his political life. They have five children and friends say

BIOGRAPHY

1922: Born east Lancashire, son of wealthy mill owner. Educated Sedbergh School
1950: President of Oxford University Conservative Association
1951: Barrister, Gray's Inn, QC, crown court recorder
1955: Married Gillian Green, three sons and two daughters
1968-1974: MP for Nelson and Colne
1978: MP for Clitheroe, then Ribble Valley. Government whip
1981-83: Parliamentary Secretary, Department of Employment
1983-87: Minister of State, Home Office, handling immigration. Chief whip
1988: Home Secretary

that the Home Secretary has no other discernible interests: politics is their life.

The former barrister and crown court recorder is an old-fashioned public service politician. Typically his first act at the Home Office was to call for the drawing up of a victims' charter to ensure that everything possible is done for members of the public suffering from crime.

Waddington represents at the Cabinet table the voice of Middle England. His instincts are anti-scrounging, anti-pornography, pro-discipline. His appointment will reassure those who populate the Conservative conference that their views are heard and understood – even if they are not always acted upon. And he believes they have a right to that reassurance. But he will not be a tool in their hands: he believes that Leon Brittan, for example, stored trouble for himself by trying too hard to please the party faithful with his annual package of offerings.

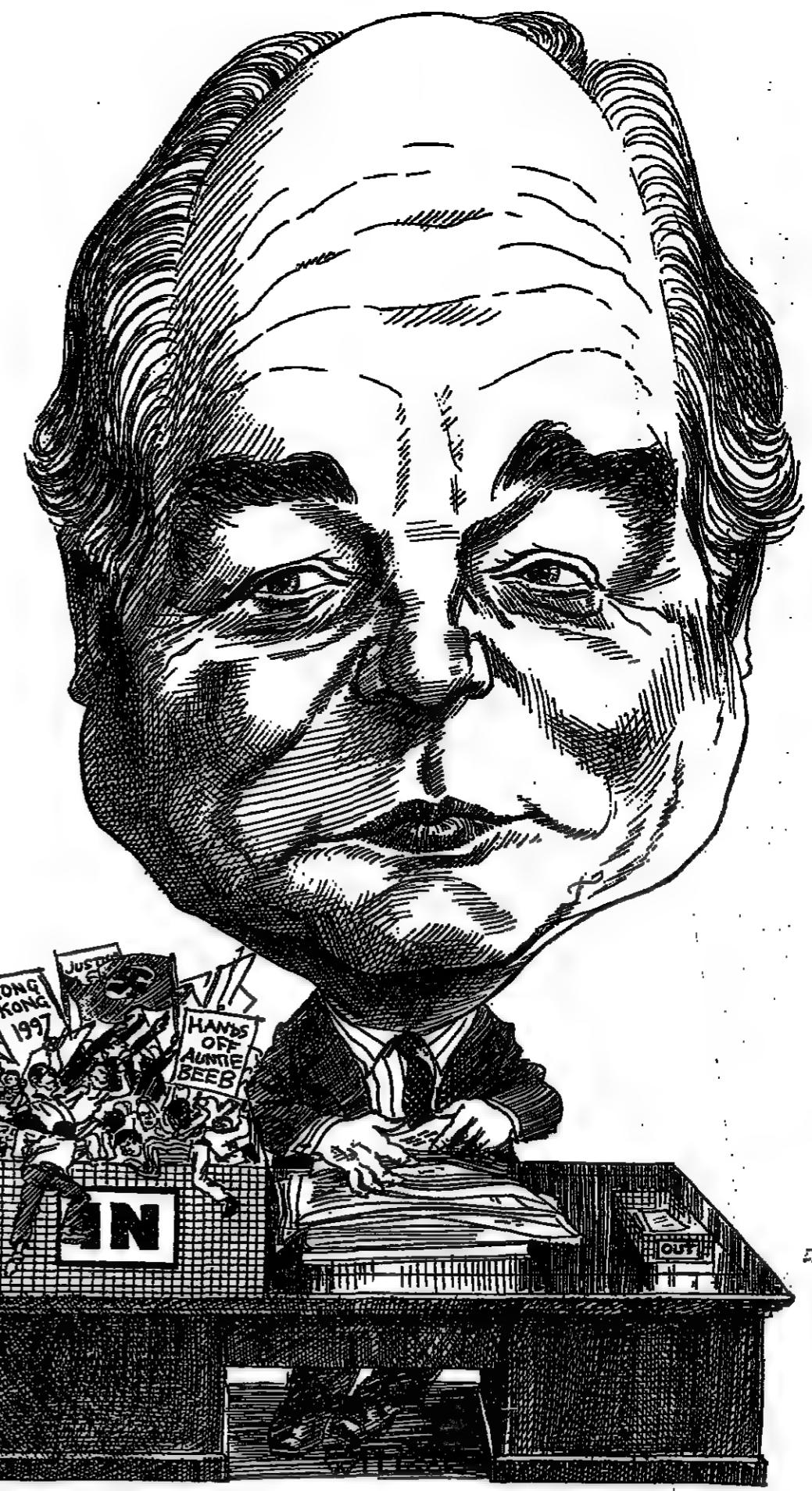
Nor will Waddington's appointment to the Home Office mean a brake on the switch to punishment in the community. Waddington genuinely rejoices at the fall in the prison population this year and he has no wish to see youngsters sent unnecessarily to prisons. What we are likely to see, though, is a little more stress on the word punishment and on fines, compensation, community work and curfews.

What everybody tells you about Waddington is that he is a straight man, who tells it like it is. On immigration he was tough but fair. Both in that role and as chief whip he had the art of saying no without giving offence. And if he is right wing it is a right-wingery which he does not allow to get in the way of practical solutions.

He has been pitchforked on the wrong side of 60 into a job he never expected and he has no expectations of further advance. And as a former chief whip he has the shrewdest sense of any as to what the party will wear and what it will not.

In David Mellor (Broadcasting) and John Patten (Criminal Justice) he has the strongest middle-rank team of any ministry. What that adds up to is that Waddington can, if he chooses, prove a key influence on the way this government conducts its business in the run up to an election. Can the Straight Man stay that way at the very top?

Robin Oakley



Introducing the Three Graces. For almost 170 years, the daughters of Jove personified grace, beauty and joy, at Woburn Abbey in Bedfordshire. Now, they symbolize government ambivalence and lost opportunity.

Pecking and cooing at each other in a sensual, slow dance, the Graces were commissioned from Antonio Canova in 1817 by the 6th Duke of Bedford to adorn his temple to beauty.

Until 1985 they continued to dance uninterrupted. Then, following an appearance at the Treasure Houses of Great Britain exhibition in Wash-



Sarah Jane Checkland

ington, they were sold by the Tavistock family to an anonymous company based in the Cayman Islands. Their whereabouts have been a mystery

Who will be heirs to the Graces?

ever since, although they are the subject of an export ban by the Department of Trade. The Getty Museum is known to want to buy them, and is waiting for the export ban to expire on March 12. Meanwhile, the Victoria & Albert Museum is desperately trying to save the Graces for the nation.

Its efforts are handicapped by an embarrassing episode in 1982, when the Government flunked an opportunity to buy

them from the Tavistocks in lieu of £1 million tax. As a result, the V&A must find £7.6 million now being asked by the Cayman Islands company. It is the largest sum the museum has ever sought, and its total annual purchase grant is £1.145 million.

This week, as Save Britain's Heritage backs the V&A by producing a fund-raising brochure, the question of the Graces' future is as baffling as ever. There is talk of "explor-

ing entrepreneurial ways" of raising the money for the V&A and it is believed that the sculpture will shortly be put on display as an incentive to donors. Meanwhile, a London sculptor has been asked by anonymous sources to create a copy of the great work.

All these desperate measures might still be avoided if campaigners seek to take advantage of a legal dilemma faced by the Department of the Environment. In Somer-

set last spring an executor was convicted for removing an overmantle mirror and fire fender from Orchardleigh House, deemed to be "fixtures or fittings" from a Grade I listed building. It was anticipated that the local council would use this law to order the Tavistocks to return the Graces to Woburn. In fact, the planning officer for Mid Bedfordshire County Council advised the council that they had this power to get the

Graces back, but instead the councillors referred the issue to the Department of the Environment.

In December, David Trippier, a junior minister for the Environment, ruled that, while there were grounds for regarding the statue as part of a listed building, it was not "an appropriate use" of the listed building legislation to "control what would widely be thought to be chattels". At the time, Marcus Binney, of Save Britain's Heritage, was apoplectic. "It is pathetic... As the minister responsible, he couldn't have produced a limper excuse."

The reason for the minister's apparent ambivalence might be the Treasury. For he must know that hundreds of other works of art on which inheritance tax has been paid for generations could now be ruled "fixtures and fittings", without a resale value. "The Treasury might find itself having to refund millions and millions of pounds," said one commentator.

But, whatever the reasoning behind the department's decision, the question remains whether Trippier's boss, Christopher Patten, the Environment Secretary, has exercised his discretion reasonably.

4 WHOLESOME READS TO KEEP YOU HEALTHY.



Are you fed up with hours of exercising that seem to have no effect? 'Thorsons Exercise Log' is a personal training diary that helps you use the workout programmes effectively.

If you're caught up in an eternal slimming dilemma, 'The Vitality Diet' is a must. By following the advice of top nutrition experts, you'll be able to find the diet that works for you.

Plagued by the curse of harsh Winter

weather? Then 'Stay Well in Winter' has a wealth of information to help you feel healthier and happier during those long evenings.

'Think yourself healthy' is an exciting study of one of the most rapidly developing fields in medicine. Find out how beliefs and moods can affect your health.

To get one or all four of these books, simply fill in the coupon below and follow the road to fitness through The Times.

Please send your coupon and remittance to: The Times Health Book Offer, P.O. Box 333, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 8HP.

NAME..... Initials.....
Mr/Mrs/Miss
Address.....
Postcode.....
Please send me books as fast, price includes postage and packing.
Please state quantity required.

WRITE NAME & ADDRESS
ON BACK OF CHEQUE

THE TIMES

Almost nine years since his report into the Brixton "disorders", as they were euphemistically called, Lord Scarman is ambivalent about his findings. "Clearly there have been a number of developments since 1981 which makes it necessary to reconsider some of the recommendations. None is basically flawed, but some are out of date and in need of review," he says.

But the central tenet – that local communities must be fully and effectively involved in planning, in the provision of local services, and in the managing and financing of specific projects – remains as true today as it was then.

Launching the fifth year of the Community Enterprise Scheme, sponsored by The Times, the Royal Institute of British Architects and Business in the Community, Lord Scarman said yesterday that the possibility, highlighted by the 1981 riots, of the rise of a permanent alienated underclass had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

Local involvement in, and in some cases control over, creating the environment is an essential part of local democracy, "even though democracy had not diminished, and talked about how he felt the problem could be ameliorated.

"When I conducted my inquiry I was made aware of just how much the built environment, especially housing, does affect people's lives.

We seem to be becoming more aware of the social consequences of design and the quality of our neighbourhoods, but also that direct participation in the process can improve the end product."

BOOKS

Kriegspiel of history

Mark Almond on the wars going on in the ashes of the last war

Since the mid-Eighties, West German historians have been involved in a bitter dispute about the causes of the Holocaust, and whether Nazi genocide should be considered unique, or can only be understood in the context of contemporary atrocities, particularly Stalin's. The prize-winning social historian, Richard Evans, has now contributed a short volume to the controversy.

Evans makes no bones about where he stands on the issues, both historical and political. Unfortunately, this book is too partisan to stand as an account of the debate. Perhaps it was the case that at the beginning, in 1986, party political affiliations in West Germany determined the response of individual historians. On the right there were conservative and Christian Democrat historians who wished to argue that not everything in German history led to Auschwitz, and that the Nazis' murderousness owed something to pan-European ideologies, such as Fascism and Soviet Communism. The left tended to argue that the peculiarities of German culture and social development were responsible for incomparably awful Nazi crimes.

Evans himself sides with the left. Fair enough, but not good enough when it leads him to play down the contributions from impeccably liberal and social democratic historians who do not agree with his simple schema. On the other hand, the Marxist American historian, Arno Mayer, has produced a left-wing mirror image of the ideas of Ernst Nolte, the favourite villain of the German left. Mayer revives the old inter-war Comintern line that Nazism was primarily anti-Communist with anti-Semitism as a vicious by-product.

The Bremer historian, Immanuel Geiss, the pupil and defender of Fritz Fischer, who was attacked by the right in the early

IN HITLER'S SHADOW
West German Historians and the Attempt to Escape from the Nazi Past
By Richard J. Evans
I. B. Tauris, £12.95, paperback £5.95

said if any of his opponents had used the similar Nazi euphemism "evacuation" to characterize the gassing of European Jewry?

Evans defends Habermas on that point, but also plays the numbers game with Stalin's victims. *Glasnost* seems to have passed him by, and Evans contented himself with quoting what one might call "stagnant" western historians to prove that Stalin's tally numbered only hundreds of thousands. But then even in his own field of social studies, he comes up with the extraordinary assertion that, on the credit side, East Germany is a more equal society than West Germany.

Evans dismisses Geiss's criticisms in a footnote, only quoting him in support of his own case. But Geiss must be taken as the central opponent of the Habermas School. Neo-Nazis do not relativize the gas chambers. They deny their existence. What Geiss does is to ask who really threatens West German democracy. He finds that Habermas and his school tend to

divide society into progressive and reactionary. Those Habermas anathematises are to be outcasts, forbidden to teach, etc. Where Evans argues that "most of the arguments" advanced by historians like Ernst Nolte and Joachim Fest "are derived from the propaganda of the Nazis themselves", Geiss draws attention to the similarity between Nazi ways of thinking and much of the intolerance of the modern left in West Germany. The latter promotes a state of intellectual civil war, since it is unwilling to mark someone down for death for racial rather than social reasons? - Evans is far too concerned with internal academic politics. He clearly thinks it

American toadies. Despite, or rather because of their incomparably German waffle about "tolerance", the Frankfurt school and its historical epigones are the chief opponents of real pluralism within the Federal Republic. Nolte by contrast argues that West Germany is the only German state which has allowed both him and his critics to exist freely, if far from harmoniously.

In a debate that has revolved around profound issues of morality - is it worse to mark someone down for death for racial rather than social reasons? - Evans is far too concerned with internal academic politics. He clearly thinks it

head of the German Historical Institutes in London and elsewhere, but apart from causing distress to the current directors, his discussion of this and other appointments will enlighten readers little about the most tragic and controversial events of the 20th century. However, though this book is a symptom of the phenomena it claims to analyse, its clarity of style will make it useful to the reader who has not been able to follow the future in German, but would like to get a feel for the emotions aroused on one side. What such a reader will miss are the arguments against Professor Evans's position, which were perhaps too good to be mentioned.

The bespoke universe

David Jones

THE STUFF OF THE UNIVERSE
By John Gribbin and Martin Rees
Heinemann, £16.95

some of these exploded as supernovae and showered the heavy elements condensed as planets around a second generation of stars; some of the planets found themselves circling stars so congenial and long-lived that they could go on for extensive and elaborate chemistry; some of that chemistry turned into life, and, on one occasion at least, some of that life evolved intelligence.

The "Flatness Principle" asserts that the Big Bang exploded with exactly the right velocity to bring the expanding Universe to ultimate static "flame". It will gradually brake to an asymptotic halt, neither expanding for ever through excess velocity, nor falling back again under excess gravity. The measured expansion rate seems nearly right for the job already, so it is challenging to pretend that it is exactly and necessarily right, and see what follows. One consequence is that there must be more to the Universe than meets the eye.

All the known galaxies put together don't contain enough gravitating matter to drag the Universe to a halt. For this to happen, the Big Bang must have generated vast amounts of some "dark matter" unlike anything we know on Earth. What could it be?

Physicists have come up with an intriguing list of possibilities: exotic particles like axions or neutrinos, clumps of quarks, miniature black holes, magnetic monopoles, even cosmic string. All can be squared with current physics, more or less; many seem to fit the way the galaxies are distributed; none (except for neutrinos) are actually known to exist. Purely as a stimulus to speculation, the Flatness Principle seems to be earning its keep.

The "Anthropic Principle" is

more surprising. It claims that the Universe is specially adapted for human life. If it wasn't, of course, we wouldn't be here to assert the principle; but that's not quite a fair argument. The Big Bang burst into existence about fifteen billion years ago, not merely with particular physical characteristics, but with the laws of physics to govern its development. It clumped and condensed into galaxies of stars; some stars formed heavy elements inside them by nuclear fusion;

The Anthropic Principle asserts that the laws of physics are somehow constrained to have interesting consequences like ourselves. God seems to have chosen them, if not exactly as a route to intelligent life, then at any rate for maximum entertainment.

The claim that the Universe is here just to produce us is

embarrassingly pre-Copernican,

not to say conceited; can it be made less parochial? One ingenious proposal, the "Many Worlds" hypothesis, holds that

there are an infinite number of universes, each with its own set of physical laws. Most of them are

total deserts, a few are horrendous nightmares; we are in the one

whose laws fit us - just as we're on a planet whose climate fits us.

This tale of two principles makes an exciting and demanding account of some of the frontiers of modern cosmology. But Gribbin and Rees have the good sense not to nail their colours too enthusiastically to either of these rickety masts. Principles, particularly when they lead to ludicrous conclusions like the identity of everybody or the wholesale existence of unobservable universes, need to be handled with care.



Quoting passports to the English heritage, and lost lands of gold

Isabel Raphael

COMMON GROUND
An Anthology
Selected by
Marghanita Laski
Carcanet, £12.95,
paperback, £9.95

Laski followed Lord Wavell (whose *Other Men's Flowers* is still one of the best anthologies around for this very reason) in including only poems that had stuck in her mind. As a result there is little modern poetry, as its rhythms and rhymes are often difficult to grasp; but this collection is intended as an aperitif, to entice readers into the golden land of poetry, in the hope that they will prolong their voyage beyond the remote Bermudas to, perhaps, the fairy island of Shallot (to my mind, the most inexplicable omission of all).

Not everything here is obvious

or familiar; I found 32 poems that I had never read before, and others that rang only faint bells. Fine poets are represented by unusual choices, and some lesser-known, like Vachel Lindsay and Charlotte Mew, stand out splendidly. There may be too much Kipling for some tastes - with 17 entries he is rivalled only by Aanon with 23 - but his variety and versatility almost justify this favouritism. All in all, this is a capital collection, with horror and humour as well as music, mystery, and magic. If the national curriculum required every schoolchild to choose one of these poems to learn by heart, that would be worth legislating for. There is something for everyone, from Wordsworth's lament for plain living and high thinking to Coleridge's honey-dew and milk of Paradise. I hope the little princes each get a copy from their father.

ADVERTISEMENT

AUTHORS WANTED
BY N.Y. PUBLISHER
Looking subsidy book publisher seeks manuscripts of all types, fiction, non-fiction, poetry, juveniles, schools, and religious. Send for free booklet K200. Vintage Press, 816 W. 34th St., New York, N.Y. 10001 U.S.A.

FOYLES ART GALLERY
THE 1990'S:
A VISION IN STITCHES
An Exhibition of TEXTILE ART
Organised by CEATA
10-6 daily (exc Sun) until 31 Jan
113-119 Charing Cross Road London WC2

Tycoon of our times

FICTION

John Nicholson

FILTHY LUCRE
By Simon Rose
Simon & Schuster, £12.95

THE WAY YOU TELL THEM
By Alan Brownjohn
André Deutsch

THE BELLAROSA CONNECTION
By Saul Bellow

SECKER & WARBERG, £11.95

WATERCOLOUR SKY
By William Rivière
Hodder & Stoughton, £10.95

I'm afraid the same injunction doesn't apply to poet Alan Brownjohn's first experiment with the novel. Set in 1999, when a fifth Tory administration is poised to lead Britain into a new millennium of freedom and enterprise. The Way You Tell Them is a disappointing rerun of the 1984 theme. A young dissident novelist is taken up, flattered, and subsequently emasculated by arch capitalist Sir Clive Denean, against a background of rising totalitarianism. Unfortunately, the bulldozers move in - a fair description of the business philosophy that has elevated Alexander Charles Prosser to a special place on the rostrum of Great Swine of our Time. What a piece of work is Prosser - and what fun financial journalist Simon Rose must have had constructing him from all that is least attractive in contemporary tycoony! An Honorary Fellow of the Genghis Khan Academy of Management Studies, Prosser is the complete corporate raider. Unbundler, extraordinary and stripper of more assets than most of us have had hot dinners, he triumphs by blackmail, character assassination, industrial espionage, insider dealing - plus, in fairness, a sensitive nose for a business opportunity. Inside BIG House, Prosser is well served by a bevy of Lucindas, Charmaines, and Jacquis, selected for their below-the-desk prowess rather than their key-boarding skills. A cluster of cowed directors and a psychopathic security chief - what more could any enterprising entrepreneur ask for?

On an altogether more serious note, Saul Bellow's The Bellarosa Connection is an intensely worked meditation on the meaning of memory. The story is slight: a Jewish immigrant, snatched from Nazi occupied Europe, is continually frustrated from expressing gratitude by his rescuer's reluctance to be reminded of less happy times. Harry Fonstein's futile efforts are observed and chronicled by an old friend who is obsessed with the experience of being Jewish in America. Bellow's later writing has none of the flashiness of his earlier work. Not a word is wasted, not a thought superfluous.

William Rivière, a writer at the other end of his career, has produced a first novel of great promise. Watercolour Sky is a beautifully written, melancholy tale of star-crossed lovers and the vanishing lifestyle of Norfolk landed gentry.

f2 a week
will buy this grandmother
the health and happiness
she deserves.

For Nang Yison from Thailand hard work
on her plot of land was her livelihood
until unbearable rheumatic
pain stopped her from working.
With no family to support
her, she was terrified of facing
the future alone.

Now, thanks to a family
from the UK who sponsor
her, Nang can face the
future without fear.
What's more, their help
also supports projects
which benefit entire
communities. So that for
less than f2 a week, they
give both Nang and other
elderly people in need, the
basic essentials of clean
water, food and medicine.

By sponsoring a
grandparent you too can
turn misery and despair
into health and happiness.
Please help to care for
someone like Nang today.

To find out how much
your support can mean,
clip the coupon now and
post it to:

Adopt a Granny,
Room 802206, Help
the Aged, FAREPOST,
London EC1B 1BD.

Yes, I'm interested in sponsoring a granny or
grandad from a poorer country. Please tell
me what I can do.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

Address

Postcode

Send to: Cindy Salas-Ortiz,
Adopt a Granny, Room 802206.

FAREPOST,
London,
EC1B 1BD.

reg. charity no. 272786

Adopt a Granny
Help the Aged

**IN THE
TLS
TOMORROW**
ROMANIA
politics and literature
of resistance



UNDER CEAUSESCU, ROMANIA'S LEADING
NON-MARXIST PHILOSOPHER
CONSTANTIN NOICA
WAS IMPRISONED FOR SIX YEARS

His previously unpublished account
of his captivity appears exclusively
in tomorrow's TLS, along with
articles, poems and reviews
devoted to Romania past,
present and future.

TLS
THE TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT
FROM YOUR NEWSAGENT
EVERY FRIDAY £1.25

© SOME REVIEWS MAY BE REPRINTED

FROM YESTERDAY'S LATER EDITIONS

THE ARTS

To tell
it like
it isn't

TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

When, in about 1964, I went to work on an ITN documentary series called *Dateline*, an old newsreel cameraman gave me his definition of what made a good current affairs programme. "Decide what you want to tell them, tell it to them, and then tell them you've told them." Simplistic, perhaps, but it led to coherent documentaries, and in some areas the advice is still being followed. Elsewhere it is not; two of last night's programmes neatly illustrated the gulf that still divides dogmatic from free-form current affairs specials.

BBC 2's *Timewatch* set out to demolish the multiple conspiracy theories surrounding Rudolf Hess, and did so pretty effectively. Whether or not you care if the old man who committed suicide in Spain three years ago at the age of 93 really committed suicide, or was really Rudolf Hess, depends on the level of your fascination with old Nazi history. There are, indeed, people around who would still go out and buy the Hitler Diaries if you put them on sale, regardless of authenticity.

Hess was himself generally reckoned to be somewhat less than totally "all there" several years before Nuremberg. After his bizarre flight to Scotland, he took to objecting that British secret police were interfering with his socks.

Now, an English consultant surgeon has come forward to suggest that there were really two men called Hess, and that they were switched, possibly in mid-air between Germany and Scotland in 1941. This, it is alleged, is why the old man was finally done away with in Spain, shortly before they demolished the gao.

Interesting, but wildly and demonstrably implausible, or so concluded *Timewatch*, in what might, given average luck, have been the last Hess documentary for at least a week.

But the Paul Ashton/Roy Davies programme did at least have a thesis and set out to prove it, which is more than can be said for *Seduction of Style* (Channel 4, in the *Signals* series), which rambled around the subject of style in politics and contemporary life with all the assured sense of purpose of a blind sheep in a thick fog.

It started with some clips of the famous Hugh Hudson commercial for Neil Kinnock, in which he wandered around cliff-top apparently auditioning for a remake of *Jonathan Livingston Seagull*. Then John Thackara's report went on to suggest that we had now, as a nation, become so obsessed with style as to have forgotten the content all together.

Several interviews followed, with style experts so laid-back as to be horizontal; at the end of the hour we were no further forward. We were only aware that the programme, too, had sacrificed any real thesaurus for a re-run of such expert parades as the *Late Show's* British Rail uncommercial.

Oxford's less than unanimous welcome of the appointment of Stephen Sondheim is recorded by Sam Kiley

Making pacific overtures

Stephen Sondheim is getting the red carpet treatment at Oxford. Oxford University's first Professor of Drama has brought unlikely glamour to the concrete avenues of St Catherine's College. New carpets have been fitted and hundreds of pounds have been spent on flowers. It is not yet clear, however, what the leading light of the thinking-man's musical will contribute to drama in Oxford.

The American composer and lyricist will inaugurate his tenure of the professorship, wholly funded to the tune of £1.5 million by the impresario Cameron Mackintosh, with a lecture tomorrow at St Catherine's. But already Oxford students involved in theatre have complained that they cannot gain access to the great man. Indeed, this week he has been running a series of workshops for a dozen specially selected musicians and lyricists, none of whom is an undergraduate at the university.

"It is absolutely disgusting; we have not been consulted about this appointment at any stage. The workshops were not advertised in the university. We only found out about them by seeing promotions in the national press. What is the point of running courses in Oxford for people who are going to contribute nothing to theatre here?" asked one prominent Oxford theorist.

Over the years, enormous pressure has been put on Oxford to open a department of drama. The move has been resisted on the grounds that students who were not specialists would be consigned to the fringes. In addition, a number of academics, not least in the English department, do not see the study of theatre as a rigorous academic exercise.

The establishment of a Visiting Professorship last year was seen as a masterful compromise. Students



Stephen Sondheim: the composer/lyricist is already hard at work and turning down all social invitations

would be given access to a professional guidance which would channel their remarkable energies more effectively – and provide a focal point for practical study. This would be no bad thing; over the next eight weeks, for instance, Oxford students will stage 48 shows.

But Sondheim is also a busy man. His show *Sunday in the Park with George* is about to go into rehearsal at the Royal National Theatre. *A Little Night Music* is still running at the Piccadilly, and *Assassins* opens later this year on Broadway. For the present, though, he is said to be completely absorbed in his Oxford posting, and refuses to make time for interviews with the media.

The endowment of the chair in

drama is the most spectacular success of the Campaign for Oxford, which hopes to raise £200 million for the university, but one insider says that the money set aside to pay Sondheim during his visits "will be just enough to pay his air-fares", since he will not be in permanent residence.

As far as the students are concerned, that is just the problem. "We want to be able to have a dramatist around for coffee – someone who can tell us we are barking up the wrong tree or that we are on the right track but heading in the wrong direction," said Richard Long, this year's joint president of the OUDS (Oxford University Dramatic Society).

Yet the students may be

complaining too much. The appointment of Sondheim has spawned a lecture series this term at which all students will be able to hear (among others) Sheridan Morley on the history of musical theatre, Andrew Bruce on orchestration, musical direction and stage design, and Mackintosh himself (producer of *Phantom of the Opera* and *Miss Saigon*) on production.

Furthermore, students from all over the country, and at all stages in their education, have been able to apply for admission to Sondheim's lectures and workshops, even if the final choice of participants has been disappointing from a purely Oxford point of view.

"There is a real shortage of good

writing in the theatre, especially the musical theatre. We want to encourage more people to come in and learn about a very specialized art," said Larry Bachmann, the former head of MGM in Europe and Britain, and one of the driving forces behind the project.

Nevertheless, undergraduates genuinely fear that the drama professorship is in danger of becoming no more than a high-profile stunt designed to attract attention to the university, while producing few tangible benefits on the theatrical front.

The master of St Catherine's, who is playing host to most of the lectures, Dr Brian Smith, dismissed student criticism as "whingeing". "Sondheim has set himself a prodigious amount of work and has refused almost every social invitation offered," he said.

Furthermore, Bachmann said this week that Sondheim would also like to chat over coffee – probably at the flat in north Oxford bought as a permanent residence for the Professor of Drama. "The professorship is one of the highest honours to be awarded to anyone in the theatre, but we were very lucky to get Sondheim at short notice," he said.

While students might be slow to respond to the arrival of Oxford's first theatre don, there is already intense interest in who will be the second.

The names of Peter Brook, Arthur Miller and Neil Simon have already been mentioned – but there is no business like Oxford democracy. All candidates will have to be elected by an appointment board made up of academics and Mackintosh nominees, though not, one assumes, any Oxford students.

Too little, too shallow

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

Oscar Wilde: Diversions and Delights Playhouse

Oscar Wilde, the subject of Donald Sinden's one-man show, would doubtless have honoured the occasion with a paradox along these lines: "There are few more depressing experiences than an evening with a man renowned for his wit."

Wilde's quips were not often wholly fair, and this particular one could be accused of applying mainly to the show's first half. But there are times when one feels one has wandered into a *Dictionary of Quotations*, got lost, and has no hope of finding the exit.

To an American customs man: "I have nothing to declare except my genius." Of Shaw: "He hasn't an enemy in the world and none of his friends like him." Of the fox-hunting classes: "The unspeakable in full pursuit of the uneatable."

Even a friendly first-night audience found it hard to laugh at aphorisms that are not merely familiar, but have stalagmites sprouting from their vowels.

Of course, the mere choice of Wilde for dramatic treatment encourages predictability. Perhaps inevitably, John Gay's script substantially consists of excuses for *bon mots*, scattered anecdotes, and the odd snippet from the works, plus a little hedonism and potted aesthetic philosophy. One would have thought that an attempt to explore Wilde's psyche was more dramatically absorbing, more challenging to the not-inconsiderable actor performing him, and better suited to the setting of *Paris 1899*, shortly before his wretched death.

We have to wait for this until the second half; and then it is too little and too shallow. Part of the problem is that, at a time when the historical Wilde was mottled, blotched and a bit toothless, Sinden looks like an overblown Cupid wearing lipstick or an overgrown Faunlet in a purple cravat. He signals his decline by swigging lots of absinthe, but there is little about him that seems truly marinated, still less ruined.

Indeed, had 19th-century Paris possessed a television station, this Oscar would probably have been doing voice-overs for absinthe ads. Sinden's familiar fruity boozes is just a bit too robustly in place. Add some large histrioic gestures, and you can see why it is difficult to believe fully and feelingly in the sad, bad memories when they eventually surface: prison, humiliation, *Bosie's* treachery; loss, grief, rage.

Wilde is a poseur. What is interesting, though, is the pain and conflict beneath; sob and sound off though he may, Sinden has not found the way creditably to combine the outer and the inner, affection and ugliness. This is Oscar reinvented by a latter-day Henry Irving; not the author of *De Profundis*.

Harry Eyes

Duck Variations
Man-in-the-Moon

Here is David Mamet (vintage mid-Seventies) at his most elliptical: two men on a park bench, holding 14 brief conversations about quacking creatures. We know nothing about the two men apart from their names, George S. Aronovitz and Emil Varek, which seem altogether disproportionate in length and significance to the reduced, near-invisible characters they denote.

Dressed with a slight but not definitive shabbiness, they could be tramps, but their demeanour is a little too sprightly for that. After a while, Roy Sampson's Varek reveals that he does have somewhere else, an apartment (less inviting than the park), to go.

Ian Hastings's production, from the Royal Exchange, Manchester, creates an effective contrast between this tall, stiff, slow figure and Terence Beesley's dark, quick, irascible, Aronovitz. To look for depth of character and the roots of a relationship is, however, as always with Mamet, to be disappointed. The conversational fragments, or unintentional cads, move typically from some unpromising reflection about ducks (life of a barnyard duck, the difference between a duck and a pigeon), to an excited interchange, generating heat if not light, before settling back to nothing again.

It producer, Catherine Reiser, calls on a pool of 20 actors to fulfil a punishing schedule: Zurich this week, Inverness next, with a specially created show for the London International Mime Festival at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Sunday. Then the company is off to Hong Kong in February and the Perth Festival in March.

The Australians should not imagine they are getting some kind of latter-day Monty Python. McBurney, now 32, dismisses the "pleasure of chaotic juxtaposition" as an extension of the Theatre of the Absurd. Complicite, he implies, has more important concerns. "We're not just trying to make people laugh," he says without pomposity. "We're also trying to make a piece of theatre. It goes back to this thing about *commedia*. What they were about was the perfect fusion between style and content."

The two characters reveal certain preoccupations – Aronovitz with the environment, Varek with loneliness – but Mamet's objective is more abstract. We are being shown the human need to assert and deny, to make parallels and draw conclusions, even about things that do not matter or about which we know nothing. Varek does at one point see the absurdity of it – "two grown men squabbling about birds!" – but then repeats his stand: "I do differ." This could be either Mamet typically leaves the conclusion open. He even conjures at the duck business could have some when Varek talks about the bird-world. They died, however: "A fitting end to some noble creatures of the sky and a lot of Greeks."

Shadowlands
NIGEL HAWTHORNE JANE LAPOTAIRE
A JOY TO THE END... DAILY EXPRESS
PACKED WITH EMOTIONAL BOMBSHIELDS
QUEENS THEATRE
A STOLL MOSS THEATRE – SHAFTESBURY AVE. W1
BOX OFFICE 734 1162 24 HRS 379 4444
781 9999 240 7200 (NO BKG FEES)
GROUP SALES 930 6123

HANSEL AND GRETEL
HUMPERDINK
LAST THREE PERFORMANCES
Tonight then Jan 20, 24 at 7.30pm
Cast inc:
Christine Bates
Alison Hagley
Pauline Thibault
Donald Maxwell
Maureen Brathwaite
Janis Kelly
Conductor James Holmes
Producer David Pountney
Designer Stefano Lazaridis
Lighting Chris Ellis

A WHOPPING HIT... Daily Mail
The entire company responds to the brilliance of the music and the stage conception... Guardian

One of ENO's highest achievements... a show filled with theatrical and musical magic. A SUPERB EVENING. UNFORGETTABLE!
Financial Times
Seats £3 - £33

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2
Box Office 01-836 3181 Credit Cards 01-240 5258

Banquet of sumptuous variety

CONCERT

Paul Griffiths

BBC PO/Downes
Barbican Hall
and Radio 3

Tuesday's programme in the BBC Berlin series looked the most austere, with two recent orchestral scores flanked by orchestrations of early Mahler songs, but it turned out to be thoroughly hedonistic. It was a banquet of instrumental tone in sumptuous variety, with not an angry, weak or ill-blended sound to be heard, reminding us that Berio belongs right up there with Berg and Debussy among the magi of the 20th-century orchestra.

Quite why he should have lavished his skills on Mahler arrangements is a bit puzzling, except as an exercise in pietà and craftsmanship. Where Mahler himself left decisive cues – either in his transcriptions of his own, as with "Absolution im Sommer", or in evidently "Mahlerian" accompaniments, as with "Za Strassburg und der Schatz" – the Berio solution is distill.

But where the original lacks that personal signature, Berio's super-fine richness, with deep-pitched caravans of sustained wind sound, finely variegated string scoring and trickles of harp and glockenspiel, carries Mahler towards the anonymity of Schreker. It was a

curious experience, made more curious by the natural, easy way in which the baritone Andreas Schuenbein strode into the song, like an innocent not noticing the world is marvellously changed. The two 100 per cent (though one wonders) Berio scores were *Formazioni* (1985-7) and a piece with the cumbersome title of *Concerto II "Echoing Curves"* (1988-9), owed to its being the second version of a piano concerto which was itself the second version of *Points on the Curve to Find*... Such expansion and reconsideration is of course an essential Berio process, but in this case it seems to have dampened an originally bright and lively piece, as if a Mozart piano concerto had been reorchestrated by Brahms.

The effect is not entirely negative. Adding a prelude, and then a

space can create a mood or a moment. "Le Coq used to be a choreographer," says Marcello Magni, an original company member. "He is interested in the larger movements of life. He sees everything as either pulling or pushing."

After five years of school performances and community projects, Complicite's national break-through came towards the end of 1988, when a 15-week season, comprising 12 shows (including an operetta, *The Phantom Violin*, played to packed houses at London's Almeida Theatre. The company now shows signs of sticking around.

Its producer, Catherine Reiser, calls on a pool of 20 actors to fulfil a punishing schedule: Zurich this week, Inverness next, with a specially created show for the London International Mime Festival at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Sunday. Then the company is off to Hong Kong in February and the Perth Festival in March.

The Australians should not imagine they are getting some kind of latter-day Monty Python. McBurney, now 32, dismisses the "pleasure of chaotic juxtaposition" as an extension of the Theatre of the Absurd. Complicite, he implies, has more important concerns. "We're not just trying to make people laugh," he says without pomposity. "We're also trying to make a piece of theatre. It goes back to this thing about *commedia*. What they were about was the perfect fusion between style and content."

Movement is central to Le Coq's theatrical vision. For their first year under him, students concentrate on discovering their stage presence. They work on perfecting their Neutral Mask, a technique which "has no expression but which assumes any expression which your body has". Later they "look at a text or a poem and see if you can translate it into a movement of your body".

Then, working in groups, they learn how the way they stand, move and relate to each other in



Zany Complicite: top, Marcello Magni; below, Simon McBurney

لها من الأصوات

Too little, too shallow
THEATRE
10-13 NIGHTS
Oscar Wilde
Divisions and
Delights

THE ARTS/FILM

Top films this week: double perspective in *A Dry White Season*; *Jesus of Montreal* and *Sisters*, another breakthrough for the Oxford Film Company

Searing apartheid

Oh, I'm terribly sorry," says Marlon Brando, with the absurd thin drawl of an ageing Englishman marooned in apartheid-torn Johannesburg, "would you like a cup of tea?" With Brando's cameo appearance in MGM's *A Dry White Season* (15, Curzon West End), exuberant play-acting suddenly erupts into a film previously stamped with the earnest bleating of Donald Sutherland.

In this adaptation of André Brink's novel, Sutherland plays Ben du Toit, the white South African schoolteacher whose complicity is punctuated when his black gardener (and the gardener's son) are tortured to death in the aftermath of a police assault on peacefully demonstrating schoolchildren. Brando — present for two scenes only (there were more originally) — is the jaded civil rights lawyer hired by Du Toit to represent the gardener's wife at the inquest. The year is 1976; we are on the edge of the Soweto uprising.

Despite lurid in tone and some visible patchwork in the script, *A Dry White Season* is an impressive film, Euzhan Palcy, the director from Martinique, making her debut in the commercial mainstream, keeps her head above water. We may not find the lyrical passion that burned through her award-winning *Rue César*.

When the Oxford Film Company logo first splashed across the big screen in 1981 the cynics muttered about pretentious and unfair leg-pulling.

It was easy to see why. A collection of undergraduates and post-graduate scholars making a film called *Privileged*, while studying at Britain's most patrician university, was bound to irritate. Inevitably the star-spotters clustered, and for once they were right. Three auspicious acting careers were launched by *Privileged*: James Wilby, Hugh Grant and Imogen Stubbs went on to bigger, if not consistently better things.

But the talents behind the camera were not about to sit back and be forgotten, either. Anyone prepared to risk the cast-calls of contemporaries is unlikely to be bankrolled by the pitfalls of an underfinanced British film industry. To date, the like-minded partners, who first gathered in college rooms at Oriel, have pooled their various talents in different combinations to make *Restless Natives*, *Promised Land* and now *Sisters* (reviewed above), which reaches UK screens tomorrow.

"Having intelligent people read

in fact, *Sisters* is the first project since *Privileged* to unite the Company's five founders. A beguiling comedy set among the snow-smothered panoramas of Canada and the Christmas-card streets of Montreal and Quebec City, *Sisters* was scripted by Rupert Walters, directed by Mike Hoffman, produced by Rick Stevenson and co-produced by Mark Bentley and Andy Paterson.

There is another key name on the credit roster, however: executive producer, Robert Redford. Redford's Sundance Institute has played a crucial role in lifting the Oxford Film Company (now based in London and LA) out of the mire of British no-can-do, into the world of Hollywood "go". *Promised Land*, which Hoffman scripted and directed, was selected for development by Redford's Utah screen "school", and although the *Sisters* script only spent a week going through the Sundance grooming process, it was a valuable experience for Walters.

"Having intelligent people read

your script and make comments on it is always valuable. Film scripts rarely end up in great shape without other people reading them," says Walters, adding that Hoffman is "the best story editor I've ever worked with".

Redford's involvement, albeit as a sort of hands-off godfather to the project, was crucial in other ways

too. There were times when the entire project could have slipped out of the fingers of Walters, Hoffman et al., were it not for Redford's prestige. "After Mike had cast Patrick Dempsey, he was offered four times as much money to do another film, so Rick (Stevenson) asked Redford to speak to him," explains Walters.

"to tell him how pleased he was that Patrick was doing this project. He also helped us in our relationship with MGM. You're really never sure when the money on a project might fall through. On *Promised Land* the money from New World dropped out with very little warning, but we were able to get the project refinanced."

Values: not great but worthwhile

Days Arcand's *Jesus of Montreal* arrives festooned with the special jury prize from last year's Cannes Film Festival and a display of the critic's most glowing adjectives, from "magnificent" downwards.

Viewing the film outside the heat of a hectic festival, the accolades seem a touch overgenerous. Persuasively mounted and acted, yes, amusing, certainly, though is there not something obvious in the way Arcand embroiders his subject — the conflict between spiritual values and the banal cacophony of daily life?

Before *The Decline of the American Empire* in 1986, the French-Canadian director was only a name for the buffs, the satirical treatment of the media circus in his new film was prompted in part by the whirlwind whipped up around Arcand by that elegantly provocative piece. The Jesus of the title is an experimental actor, Daniel, blessed with the traditional ascetic look. A Catholic church invites him to stage a passion play on Mont Royal, overlooking Montreal. After gathering disciple-actors from various sources — Mireille is a model, Tony provides dubbed voices for pornographic movies — Daniel launches his production.

The Catholic authorities bristle; the media pounces and the play becomes the flavour of the month. Meanwhile, the dividing line between Daniel and his character begins to blur. At a commercials audition he behaves like Jesus with the Temple money-lenders, overturning hi-tech equipment; at the end, he undergoes a form of death and resurrection.

Whenever the comedy topples into the "romp" category

mood becomes strained; the eccentricities too, are occasionally overdone. But whenever Hoffman relaxes the tempo and dwells on the mysteries of his material, *Sisters* casts a bizarre spell. Eugénio Zanetti's clustered Gothic interiors provide a sumptuous backdrop for this tale of tantalized princesses and a fairy godmother figure, Lila Kedrova joins Dempsey in a surprising moment, stripped naked at a dangerous age (70) for a tender communion between Youth and Experience. This offbeat little film could easily slip away unnoticed; do not let it.

It is sad to find a film that fails to give offence when it strains every pore to do so. Possible some ostrich-headed Aunt Edna might be shocked by *Scenes From the Class Struggle in Beverly Hills* (18, Cannon Haymarket); but no-one attracted by the title, or by the past films of its director Paul Bartel, is likely to blush at the hanky-panky taking place in Jacqueline Bisset's Beverly Hills mansion. Bisset (who still seems the Weybridge rose even in unbathed fare like this) plays a fading actress, recently widowed; the film describes one feverish weekend of outrageous talk and bed-hopping with her divorced neighbour (the splendidly predatory Mary Woronov), the neighbour's playwright brother and saucy new wife.

The declared aim of Bartel and co-writer Bruce Wagner was to present a hip, radical variation on classic social comedies like *La Regle du Jeu* and *Smiles of a Summer Night*. But the glossy trappings of their chosen Los Angeles enclave seems to have sapped the film's fibre; Bartel — on-screen himself as the "thinologist" Dr Mo Van de Kamp — views the silly courtships with too genial and indulgent an eye. O suture, where is thy sting? *Welcome Home* (15, Odeon Haymarket) is a facile addition to the current cycle of Vietnam dramas and the last film directed by Franklin J. Schaffner, who died last July. Alas, this is no *Patton* or *Planet of the Apes*.

Kris Kristofferson plays a veteran long assumed dead, who surfaces 17 years later after building a new life and family in Cambodia. His original family, tucked away cosily in beautiful Vermont, have a lot of adjusting to do. Isolated scenes explore the domestic conflicts with care, but it only takes a spoonful of Mancini's honeyed music or an overwrought line like "I don't think you've got a corner on the guilt market" for the soap suds to blot out the drama.

Oscar Moore



Fear: Zakes Mokae and Donald Sutherland threatened by state terror

Another successful test for Oxford



Facing up to love: Patrick Dempsey with sisters Sheila Kelly, Jennifer Connolly and Ashley Greenfield

Angela Brooks talks to actress Gila Almigor, about the new-found sensitivity in Israeli cinema, soon on show in London



Gila Almigor: a biographical account of coming to terms with reality

You could persuasively argue that Israeli film-makers — not noted for cinematic virtuosity — have traded one set of stereotypes for another. Certainly swaggering, Uzi-toting heroes are scarce at the First Israeli Film Season mounted by the Spiro Institute at the Everyman Cinema in Hampstead, starting on January 21.

Instead, the three-day programme offers an abundance of conscience-plagued, soul-searching types, caught red-handed in acts once anathema to your hardy saba: one of them is nursing his sanity after one of the worst battles of the Lebanon war (*Burning Memory*); another tentatively forges a relationship with a Palestinian (*Night Movie*); and in *Behind the Walls* an Israeli hood joins hands with a convicted PLO terrorist to lead a prison uprising.

Nitsa Spiro, director of the institute, says that the season's films offer an alternative to the "brutal, careless and hard-headed" image of Israelis here.

"I can't say that they are all great films," she says. "But I think the subject and the spirit sometimes transcends the technical and financial limitations."

At least one film to which these candid reservations clearly do not apply is the exquisite *Summer of Aviva*, last year's Silver Bear

winner at the Berlin Film Festival, which will open in London on March 9 and in BFI regional theatres from April.

The film is set in Israel after the Second World War and recounts one summer in the life of a 10-year-old girl and her mother, a partisan and Polish concentration camp survivor who lost her husband and family in the camps, and was driven insane by the experience.

The film is largely autobiographical, based on the book of the same name by Gila Almigor, one of Israel's foremost actresses, who produced and co-stars, playing the part of her mother.

Unlike the character of Henya in the film, Almigor's mother was not a partisan, nor was she in a concentration camp, "but she believed she was when she had her attacks". She would scribble numbers in blue ink on her arms and then run out into the streets baring them and screaming things in Polish, and the children would run after her, taunting her.

Large chunks of Almigor's childhood were spent in orphanages while her mother was in hospital; she never knew her

father. "My mother told me he was handsome, that he waltzed and he had big black eyes."

Almigor's own brush with a nervous breakdown a few years ago was the spur to produce the book. She found herself in her mid-forties, with everything going her way, sinking into an abyss where all she could do was cry.

One morning the actress's daughter solemnly scrutinized her mother's face. "She then said: 'When I get back from school, don't cry any more.'

"I felt so sorry for her and so frightened of myself. I closed the door, went to her room, rummaged around for a notebook and started to write."

The result was an instant best seller, now, in its 10th edition, required reading on the schools' syllabus.

Says Almigor: "In the early years in Israel, the message was to turn your back on the past. We had to devote ourselves to creating the beautiful, the new, the strong. We were different. We were the new Jews."

"Some came and pretended to build a new life after having lost

their children and husbands, wives and parents. They came here thinking they would start from scratch. There was never time for mourning, for working out grief — so many of them had only postponed their agony and cracked up when their children have left for the Army."

Almigor feels that 40 years on, Israeli film makers are at last coming to grips with the past and wrestling with the political, social and religious issues of the present. "Not so long ago, directors typically would point their cameras at, say, a Jewish Moroccan family, a Polish Jewish family, give them a couple of cheap ethnic jokes — and they would call it a comedy."

Now they have smart, blue-eyed, blond Arabs and dense, wild-haired, glass-eyed Israelis.

Almigor worries that the pendulum may have swung too far. But she comforts herself with the belief that they are at least on the right track.

*The Israeli film season is at the Everyman Cinema (01-35 1525) on January 24, 25 and 28. *Summer of Aviva* opens at the Phoenix, East Finchley, on March 9, and the Ritzy Theatre, Brixton, on March 23.*

CHEAPER MOTOR INSURANCE

DEAL DIRECT FOR A BETTER SERVICE

(LONDON)

01-686 2468

PHONE FOR AN IMMEDIATE QUOTE

ANYTIME 8am - 8pm WEEKDAYS, 9am - 2pm SATURDAYS

DIRECT LINE
INSURANCE

A member of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group

To: Direct Line Insurance, FREEPOST, PO Box 75, Croydon CR9 9LZ.

Please send me an estimate for my motor insurance. I am between 25 and 75 years age, hold a UK licence and do not require driving by persons under 25. I/We have had no accidents or claims within the last 3 years. I/We have had no convictions in the last 5 years (other than parking or 1 speeding). I/We are in good health.

Male/Female: Female Male

Initials: _____

Date of Birth: Day: _____ Month: _____ Year: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel No: _____

Car Make & Model: _____

Year: _____

Type of Cover (Please tick): Comprehensive Third Party Fire & Theft

Occupation: _____

Self Employed: Yes No

Driver/Passenger: Insured & Spouse Any driver over 25

No Claims Bonus: _____ Percentage: _____ Years: _____

Expiry Date of Present Policy: _____

Not available in Northern Ireland

1449

NO
STAMP
NEEDED

INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN



BOOKING KEY
* Seats available
* Return entry
(0) Access for disabled

THEATRE
LONDON

* ASPECTS OF LOVE: Lloyd Webber musical based on David Garnett's novella; many dull patches. *Princes of Wales Theatre, Coventry St, 01-839 9927, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* BARNABY AND THE OLD BOY: Jim Gascoine, Keith Baxter, Jennifer Hillier in Baxter's intervening thought on sentimental drama of Welsh practice. *Vaucluse Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-836 9987), Tube: Charing Cross, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, mats Thurs 2.30pm and Sat 4.30pm, 27-28.*

* BLOOD BROTHERS: Willy Russell's sentimental musical about twin brothers destroyed by the English class system; Angela Richards as their mother. *Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-867 1115), Tube: Leicester Sq, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat 8.15pm, Thurs 2.30pm and Sat 4.30pm, 25-26.*

* SCENES FROM AN EXECUTION: Glenda Jackson's return to the stage as the Renaissance painter pursuing her campaign for truth in Howard Barker's playwriting; opening the new Almeida Theatre Company's season. *Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-399 4404), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, mat Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* SEVEN LEARS: Howard Barker's prequel to Shakespeare, a complex play about misgovernment and scruple. Excellentely performed by Nicholas Le Prevost and the Wrestling School. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-730 1745), Tues-Sat 7.45pm, Mon-Sat 8-10.45pm, Mon 24, Tues-Sat 25-26.*

* BOOTS FOR THE FOOTLOOSE: Brian Behan's sprightly Irish comedy set in the wild world of rent dodgers and rent agitators at the Festival of Britain; plenty of laughter. *Triangle Theatre, 289 Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (01-362 1000), Tube: Kilburn, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm, 24-25.*

* DIVERSIONS AND DELIGHTS: Oscar Wilde looks back on his life in Donald Sinden's one-man show. Limited season. *Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (01-639 4401), Tube: Embankment, Mon-Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* HEARTBREAKERS: Elizabeth Cullen, Richard O'Callaghan in a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play. *King's Head Theatre, 15 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916), Tube: Kilburn, Tues, Wed and Thurs 8.15pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* JEWISH BROTHERS: Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known mien-shou-Scho locked into his famous pub overnight and meeting sources has him in the lead. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-379 5399), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 5.30pm, Sun 5.15pm.*

* NOEL AND GERTIE: Patricia Hodge and Simon Callow sing and dance in Sheridan Morley's trip down Memory Lane. *Comedy Theatre, Pantom St, London SW1 (01-580 2570), Tube: Piccadilly Circus, Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 8.45pm and Sat 8pm, 25-30-26.*

* NEDDA: Elizabeth Cullen, Richard O'Callaghan in a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play. *King's Head Theatre, 15 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916), Tube: Kilburn, Tues, Wed and Thurs 8.15pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL: Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known mien-shou-Scho locked into his famous pub overnight and meeting sources has him in the lead. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-379 5399), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 5.30pm, Sun 5.15pm.*

* BLOOD BROTHERS: Willy Russell's sentimental musical about twin brothers destroyed by the English class system; Angela Richards as their mother. *Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-867 1115), Tube: Leicester Sq, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat 8.15pm, Thurs 2.30pm and Sat 4.30pm, 25-26.*

* SCENES FROM AN EXECUTION: Glenda Jackson's return to the stage as the Renaissance painter pursuing her campaign for truth in Howard Barker's playwriting; opening the new Almeida Theatre Company's season. *Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-399 4404), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, mat Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* SEVEN LEARS: Howard Barker's prequel to Shakespeare, a complex play about misgovernment and scruple. Excellentely performed by Nicholas Le Prevost and the Wrestling School. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-730 1745), Tues-Sat 7.45pm, Mon 24, Tues-Sat 25-26.*

* BOOTS FOR THE FOOTLOOSE: Brian Behan's sprightly Irish comedy set in the wild world of rent dodgers and rent agitators at the Festival of Britain; plenty of laughter. *Triangle Theatre, 289 Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (01-362 1000), Tube: Kilburn, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm, 24-25.*

* DIVERSIONS AND DELIGHTS: Oscar Wilde looks back on his life in Donald Sinden's one-man show. Limited season. *Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (01-639 4401), Tube: Embankment, Mon-Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* HEARTBREAKERS: Elizabeth Cullen, Richard O'Callaghan in a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play. *King's Head Theatre, 15 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916), Tube: Kilburn, Tues, Wed and Thurs 8.15pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* JEWISH BROTHERS: Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known mien-shou-Scho locked into his famous pub overnight and meeting sources has him in the lead. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-379 5399), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 5.30pm, Sun 5.15pm.*

* NOEL AND GERTIE: Patricia Hodge and Simon Callow sing and dance in Sheridan Morley's trip down Memory Lane. *Comedy Theatre, Pantom St, London SW1 (01-580 2570), Tube: Piccadilly Circus, Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 8.45pm and Sat 8pm, 25-30-26.*

* NEDDA: Elizabeth Cullen, Richard O'Callaghan in a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play. *King's Head Theatre, 15 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916), Tube: Kilburn, Tues, Wed and Thurs 8.15pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL: Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known mien-shou-Scho locked into his famous pub overnight and meeting sources has him in the lead. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-379 5399), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 5.30pm, Sun 5.15pm.*

* BLOOD BROTHERS: Willy Russell's sentimental musical about twin brothers destroyed by the English class system; Angela Richards as their mother. *Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-867 1115), Tube: Leicester Sq, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat 8.15pm, Thurs 2.30pm and Sat 4.30pm, 25-26.*

* SCENES FROM AN EXECUTION: Glenda Jackson's return to the stage as the Renaissance painter pursuing her campaign for truth in Howard Barker's playwriting; opening the new Almeida Theatre Company's season. *Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-399 4404), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, mat Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* SEVEN LEARS: Howard Barker's prequel to Shakespeare, a complex play about misgovernment and scruple. Excellentely performed by Nicholas Le Prevost and the Wrestling School. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-730 1745), Tues-Sat 7.45pm, Mon 24, Tues-Sat 25-26.*

* BOOTS FOR THE FOOTLOOSE: Brian Behan's sprightly Irish comedy set in the wild world of rent dodgers and rent agitators at the Festival of Britain; plenty of laughter. *Triangle Theatre, 289 Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (01-362 1000), Tube: Kilburn, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm, 24-25.*

* DIVERSIONS AND DELIGHTS: Oscar Wilde looks back on his life in Donald Sinden's one-man show. Limited season. *Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (01-639 4401), Tube: Embankment, Mon-Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* HEARTBREAKERS: Elizabeth Cullen, Richard O'Callaghan in a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play. *King's Head Theatre, 15 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916), Tube: Kilburn, Tues, Wed and Thurs 8.15pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* JEWISH BROTHERS: Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known mien-shou-Scho locked into his famous pub overnight and meeting sources has him in the lead. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-379 5399), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 5.30pm, Sun 5.15pm.*

* NOEL AND GERTIE: Patricia Hodge and Simon Callow sing and dance in Sheridan Morley's trip down Memory Lane. *Comedy Theatre, Pantom St, London SW1 (01-580 2570), Tube: Piccadilly Circus, Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 8.45pm and Sat 8pm, 25-30-26.*

* NEDDA: Elizabeth Cullen, Richard O'Callaghan in a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play. *King's Head Theatre, 15 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916), Tube: Kilburn, Tues, Wed and Thurs 8.15pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL: Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known mien-shou-Scho locked into his famous pub overnight and meeting sources has him in the lead. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-379 5399), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 5.30pm, Sun 5.15pm.*

* BLOOD BROTHERS: Willy Russell's sentimental musical about twin brothers destroyed by the English class system; Angela Richards as their mother. *Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-867 1115), Tube: Leicester Sq, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat 8.15pm, Thurs 2.30pm and Sat 4.30pm, 25-26.*

* SCENES FROM AN EXECUTION: Glenda Jackson's return to the stage as the Renaissance painter pursuing her campaign for truth in Howard Barker's playwriting; opening the new Almeida Theatre Company's season. *Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-399 4404), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, mat Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* SEVEN LEARS: Howard Barker's prequel to Shakespeare, a complex play about misgovernment and scruple. Excellentely performed by Nicholas Le Prevost and the Wrestling School. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-730 1745), Tues-Sat 7.45pm, Mon 24, Tues-Sat 25-26.*

* BOOTS FOR THE FOOTLOOSE: Brian Behan's sprightly Irish comedy set in the wild world of rent dodgers and rent agitators at the Festival of Britain; plenty of laughter. *Triangle Theatre, 289 Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (01-362 1000), Tube: Kilburn, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm, 24-25.*

* DIVERSIONS AND DELIGHTS: Oscar Wilde looks back on his life in Donald Sinden's one-man show. Limited season. *Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (01-639 4401), Tube: Embankment, Mon-Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* HEARTBREAKERS: Elizabeth Cullen, Richard O'Callaghan in a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play. *King's Head Theatre, 15 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916), Tube: Kilburn, Tues, Wed and Thurs 8.15pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* JEWISH BROTHERS: Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known mien-shou-Scho locked into his famous pub overnight and meeting sources has him in the lead. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-379 5399), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 5.30pm, Sun 5.15pm.*

* NOEL AND GERTIE: Patricia Hodge and Simon Callow sing and dance in Sheridan Morley's trip down Memory Lane. *Comedy Theatre, Pantom St, London SW1 (01-580 2570), Tube: Piccadilly Circus, Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 8.45pm and Sat 8pm, 25-30-26.*

* NEDDA: Elizabeth Cullen, Richard O'Callaghan in a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play. *King's Head Theatre, 15 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916), Tube: Kilburn, Tues, Wed and Thurs 8.15pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL: Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known mien-shou-Scho locked into his famous pub overnight and meeting sources has him in the lead. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-379 5399), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 5.30pm, Sun 5.15pm.*

* BLOOD BROTHERS: Willy Russell's sentimental musical about twin brothers destroyed by the English class system; Angela Richards as their mother. *Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-867 1115), Tube: Leicester Sq, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat 8.15pm, Thurs 2.30pm and Sat 4.30pm, 25-26.*

* SCENES FROM AN EXECUTION: Glenda Jackson's return to the stage as the Renaissance painter pursuing her campaign for truth in Howard Barker's playwriting; opening the new Almeida Theatre Company's season. *Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-399 4404), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, mat Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* SEVEN LEARS: Howard Barker's prequel to Shakespeare, a complex play about misgovernment and scruple. Excellentely performed by Nicholas Le Prevost and the Wrestling School. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-730 1745), Tues-Sat 7.45pm, Mon 24, Tues-Sat 25-26.*

* BOOTS FOR THE FOOTLOOSE: Brian Behan's sprightly Irish comedy set in the wild world of rent dodgers and rent agitators at the Festival of Britain; plenty of laughter. *Triangle Theatre, 289 Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (01-362 1000), Tube: Kilburn, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm, 24-25.*

* DIVERSIONS AND DELIGHTS: Oscar Wilde looks back on his life in Donald Sinden's one-man show. Limited season. *Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (01-639 4401), Tube: Embankment, Mon-Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* HEARTBREAKERS: Elizabeth Cullen, Richard O'Callaghan in a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play. *King's Head Theatre, 15 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916), Tube: Kilburn, Tues, Wed and Thurs 8.15pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* JEWISH BROTHERS: Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known mien-shou-Scho locked into his famous pub overnight and meeting sources has him in the lead. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-379 5399), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 5.30pm, Sun 5.15pm.*

* NOEL AND GERTIE: Patricia Hodge and Simon Callow sing and dance in Sheridan Morley's trip down Memory Lane. *Comedy Theatre, Pantom St, London SW1 (01-580 2570), Tube: Piccadilly Circus, Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 8.45pm and Sat 8pm, 25-30-26.*

* NEDDA: Elizabeth Cullen, Richard O'Callaghan in a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's controversial play. *King's Head Theatre, 15 Upper St, N1 (01-226 1916), Tube: Kilburn, Tues, Wed and Thurs 8.15pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, Sun 5.30pm.*

* JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL: Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known mien-shou-Scho locked into his famous pub overnight and meeting sources has him in the lead. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-379 5399), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats 5.30pm, Sun 5.15pm.*

* BLOOD BROTHERS: Willy Russell's sentimental musical about twin brothers destroyed by the English class system; Angela Richards as their mother. *Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-867 1115), Tube: Leicester Sq, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat 8.15pm, Thurs 2.30pm and Sat 4.30pm, 25-26.*

* SCENES FROM AN EXECUTION: Glenda Jackson's return to the stage as the Renaissance painter pursuing her campaign for truth in Howard Barker's playwriting; opening the new Almeida Theatre Company's season. *Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-399 4404), Tube: Highbury and Islington, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, mat Sat 8pm, 25-26.*

* SEVEN LEARS: Howard Barker's prequel to Shakespeare, a complex play about misgovernment and scruple. Excellentely performed by Nicholas Le Prevost and the Wrestling School. *Almeida Theatre, Shoreditch, E1 (01-730 1745), Tues-Sat 7.45pm, Mon 24, Tues-Sat 25-26.*

* BOOTS FOR THE FOOTLOOSE: Brian Behan's sprightly Irish comedy set in the wild world of rent dodgers and rent agitators at the Festival of Britain; plenty of laughter. *Triangle Theatre, 289 Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (01-362 1000), Tube: Kilburn, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm, 24-25.*

* DIVERSIONS AND DELIGHTS: Oscar Wilde looks back on his life in Donald Sinden's one-man show. Limited season. *Playhouse Theatre, North*

Delors urges more power for the EC Commission

From Peter Gafford, Strasbourg

M Jacques Delors, the president of the European Commission, has rekindled the debate on the European Community by calling for a new "institutional framework", giving genuine decision-making powers to the Commission and an enhanced role to the European Parliament.

He also firmly endorsed a potentially unified Germany within the EC — which Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, promptly welcomed from Paris — and called for an ambitious economic and political dialogue with Eastern Europe.

This, he implied, could entice EC governments dipping deeper into their pockets to fund a major increase in

East Germany can expect preferential treatment if it seeks closer links with the European Community, Mr William Waldegrave, the Foreign Office minister, said yesterday, reversing previous British policy. Page 7

Leading article.....13

expenditure on Eastern Europe.

In a keynote speech to MEPs in Strasbourg yesterday, M Delors declared that the time had come for institutional reform in the EC. The 12 should confront the uncertain future of their continent by turning the Brussels Commission into a "real executive", answerable to and counter-balanced by "the democratic institutions of the future Federation".

The respective powers of national assemblies and the European Parliament should be clearly delineated, and the two should collaborate, in order to ensure full democratic control.

A top aide to M Delors said

with British passports would not be allowed to seek British consular protection once the territory returned to Chinese rule.

The statement, risking further damage to the confidence of the Hong Kong community, was refuted by Mr Hurd as he reported to the Commons on his visit and by senior Foreign Office officials.

However, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, said the statement in Canton by Mr Li Ping, deputy secretary general of the committee drafting the basic law planned for Hong Kong after 1997.

However, Mr Hurd repeated his

statement that British citizens in Hong Kong would be able to seek British consular protection.

The decision announced in Canton was apparently designed to ensure the loyalty to Peking of the territory's chief executive, of his top advisers on the executive council and of the highest echelons of the civil service by barring them from accepting British passports.

Until now, China has insisted only that these officials be Chinese nationals and long-time residents of Hong Kong. The Foreign Office was attempting to play down the state-

ment which they said came from a subcommittee of the drafting exercise. A senior official said: "This statement causes concern. We are not complacent. We will need to seek clarification. We need to get to the bottom of it."

Whitehall sources explained that while the Chinese did not recognize dual nationality British nationals had a right to British consular protection abroad.

Mr Hurd said on his return that the people of Hong Kong accepted reluctantly that Britain could not grant all of them passports.

She said: "No father should be able to escape from his

responsibility" and, as predicted in yesterday's *Times*, Mr Tony Newton, the Social Security Secretary, announced simultaneously that intensive studies are to begin, designed to set up a comprehensive new system which will ensure that absent fathers pay towards the maintenance of their families.

Proposals will be produced later this year.

Matthew Parris

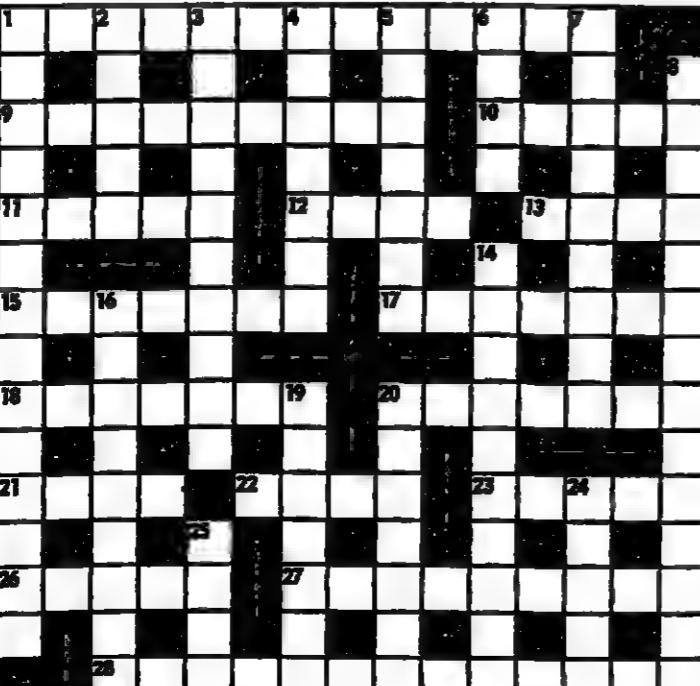
China may block Hong Kong citizens' British rights

By Philip Webster and Jonathan Brande
in Hong Kong

Britain is to seek urgent clarification from China of an apparently serious new threat to the Government's nationality package for Hong Kong.

As Mr Douglas Hurd, Foreign Secretary, flew back from the colony, a leading Chinese official announced that top officials would have to renounce all rights of abode in foreign countries after the territory reverts to Chinese control in 1997. He said Hong Kong people

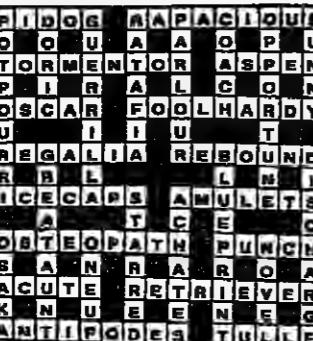
THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,194



ACROSS

- 1 It describes the nature of work, as in "Plans work out" (10,3).
- 2 Camp that overlaps Viking's (9).
- 10 A society chap — thus an insider (5).
- 11 Do see about author (5).
- 12 Song told a story (4).
- 13 Tramps to be deprived of cover? It's in the wind (4).
- 15 University department's conferred power (7).
- 17 Sort of verb I've deleted in this passage (7).
- 18 To go over it takes an age, ends in utmost fatigue (7).
- 20 Roused a man, without being married (7).
- 21 Opening in State education for a sportsperson (4).
- 22 Church not completed by French cleric (4).
- 23 Emperor besieging Germany's

Solution to Puzzle No 18,193



DOWN

- 1 Distressed. I feared Gestapo might discover food (4,2,4,4).
- 2 Like 13, with a lot of grass (5).
- 3 No longer suspected, I can let her out (2,3,5).
- 4 West Midlands town featured in a Brontë novel (7).
- 5 Budding climber makes it, proceeding from foot of Matterhorn (7).
- 6 Tibetan monk — a native of S. America, they say (4).
- 7 Women's waste receptacle — when inside, it's used for cleaning (4-5).
- 8 Quotes from card "Is Movement Changing?" (8,6).
- 14 Nick and Thomas worked together to make a coat (10).
- 16 Dear John won't make a travelling hawk (5-6).
- 19 Prohibition threw up nothing to attract my interest (7).
- 20 Persuade the French to support western note (7).
- 24 Wolf — a man short of energy (5).
- 25 A group of countries stop talking (4).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

TOPOONYMUS

1. A pickelhaube

2. A helmet-shaped

3. A land

CHICAGO PIANO

4. Fats Waller's style

5. A piano

6. An automobile grille

TIPPERARY RIFLE

7. A spear

8. A 14-gauge shotgun

SPANISH WORM

9. A troublesome nail

10. Caithnairi larva

11. An irrigator

Answers on page 20

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

LONDON & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circ), 731

M-ways/roads M4-M1

M-ways/roads M25-M27

M-ways/roads M25-M4

M25 London Orbital only

735

M-ways/roads and railroads

National motorways

737

West Country

738

Wales

739

Midlands

740

East Anglia

741

North-west England

742

North-east England

743

Scotland

744

Northern Ireland

745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

Concise crossword, page 20

Fords face all-out national strike

MIKE POWELL



Ford workers in a noisy demonstration outside Baywater House where the talks were held in London yesterday

Continued from page 1

Union negotiators immediately threw out the "final offer" which added just half a per cent to the second year offer of 7.5% or the rate of inflation plus 2.5%, whichever was the greater.

The deal would have added about £40 to pay packets over the two years. It will be put to workers in a secret ballot next week.

However, negotiators warned that

shop floor floor was so great that they expected a vote for an all-out strike, which would cost Ford £30 million a day.

Mr Jack Adams, the TGWU chief negotiator, said: "We have exhausted the negotiations. We would describe the company's movement as a marginal difference. We thought the company would have moved a lot more to identify the areas of concern of our members but that was not to be."

More than 500 Ford workers staged a noisy demonstration outside the company's offices in Baywater, London, urging managers to increase their offer. A day of action halted production at virtually all the company's major production plants.

Mr John Hougham, the company's British personnel director, said it was now up to the employees to accept the offer or "the stark alternative of a strike."

Mr John Hougham, the company's

Political sketch

Anguishing over the outer darkness

It requires a certain — shall we say, cachet — at Westminster to be able to make a point (or cause a stir) by one's presence alone. Such cachet can be enduring or temporary, noble or ignoble.

For an instance of temporary and ignoble cachet, take Mr Ron Brown. Brown caused a flurry of interest yesterday simply by sitting down. He was not called.

How about cachet of the enduring and noble sort?

There are clever people at Westminster; there are principled people; and there are people who stick to their guns. Unfortunately they are almost never the same people. An instance has yet to be recorded of a clever and principled person sticking to the right guns. But — while we wait — let us draw inspiration from the principled Mr Peter Shore (Lab, Bethnal Green and Stepney) who has stuck intelligently to the wrong guns for as long as anyone can remember.

A veteran sceptic about the EC, Mr Shore told Nicholas Ridley (the Industry Secretary) that there had been a "reckless handing over to Brussels of the power to oversee trans-national takeovers". Heaven knows if it's right (Ridley denied it) — but he didn't half sound impressive!

And the next session — a Statement on Hong Kong from the Foreign Secretary — illustrated a stark example of enduring and noble cachet. Sir Peter Tappell (C, Lindsey E).

Sir Peter was right about Rhodesia before Mrs Thatcher and he paid the penalty since 1979. Foreign Office slang calls everything that isn't Britain, America or the EC, "the outer darkness". No Tony backbencher stays in closer touch than Sir Peter with "the outer darkness".

For months, he has attended every Statement, Debate and Private Notice Question on Hong Kong and the refugee problem, but (in my observation) has never spoken. Sir Peter just sits there, looking concerned. It is well known that he understands these issues better than most, yet he turns to listen to speaker after speaker without ever rising himself.

His informed, silent presence is worrying beyond words. But the Commons struggle is tipping in Mr Hurd's

direction. "The Foreign Secretary's" visit to Hong Kong was more convincing. This report, he said, charged the Hong Kong authorities with serious abuses of refugees.

The Foreign Secretary looked mildly shocked. These were "not accepted" he said. Well I never. Anyway, he added, he had observed some of the "screeching interviews" himself recently, while visiting the camps — and everything was done quite correctly.

Odd that "The Foreign Secretary's" visit to Hong Kong was more convincing. This report, he said, charged the Hong Kong authorities with serious abuses of refugees.

Sir Peter Tappell joined neither. He just sat there, worrying.

Matthew Parris

'Way of life threatened'

Continued from page 1

experienced the break-up of its parents' marriage before reaching 16, one in four was born outside marriage and four out of five lone mothers claiming income support were receiving no maintenance from the father.

She said: "No father should be able to escape from his

responsibility" and, as predicted in yesterday's *Times*, Mr Tony Newton, the Social Security Secretary, announced simultaneously that intensive studies are to begin, designed to set up a comprehensive new system which will ensure that absent fathers pay towards the maintenance of their families.

Proposals will be produced later this year.

Matthew Parris

WEATHER

land. Sheet or snow on hills. Cloud will increase to bring more persistent rain to north-west Scotland in the afternoon. Over north-west England and north Wales, a few showers are also likely but these will tend to die out. Southern Wales, along with southern and eastern England, will be mostly dry with sunny periods. Windy in northern districts. Outlook: Rain.

Whitehall sources explained that while the Chinese did not recognize dual nationality British nationals had a right to British consular protection abroad.

Mr Hurd said on his return that the people of Hong Kong accepted reluctantly that Britain could not grant all of them passports.

She said: "No father should be able to escape from his

responsibility" and, as predicted in yesterday's *Times*, Mr Tony Newton, the Social Security Secretary, announced simultaneously that intensive studies are to begin, designed to set up a comprehensive new system which will ensure that absent fathers pay towards the maintenance of their families.

Proposals will be produced later this year.

Matthew Parris

ABROAD

Scorpio

Crusoe

Scorpio

Scorpio

Scorpio

Scorpio

Scorpio

Scorpio

critical sketch
shining over
darkness

- BUSINESS & FINANCE 23-30
- TECHNOLOGY 31-34
- FOCUS ON DURHAM 36,37
- LAW 38
- SPORT 39-44

THURSDAY JANUARY 18 1990

23

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6495 (-0.0057)

W German mark
2.7852 (-0.0221)

Exchange index
87.8 (-0.5)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1895.3 (+19.6)

FT-SE 100
2373.9 (+24.8)

USM (Datasream)
157.85 (+0.67)

Market report, page 28

Lookers up to £6.8m

Lookers, the Manchester car dealer, made profits of £6.83 million in the year to September, a rise of 8 per cent, on sales 14 per cent up at £309 million. Earnings per share were 2 per cent ahead at 25.5p. A final dividend of 4.2p, up 14 per cent, is proposed, leaving the total 0.85p up at 6.2p.

Mr Ken Martindale, the chairman, said that the start to the current year was disappointing and interim profits would be reduced. The £14.7 million acquisition of SMAC, the southern dealer, last August had been pitched at 13 times earnings, so some dilution was inevitable.

Tempus, page 24

Barbour builds

Barbour Index, the construction industry information publisher, increased pre-tax profits by a quarter to £2.73 million in the six months to end-October. Turnover rose 23 per cent to £6.27 million. The interim dividend is 2p, up 60 per cent. Tempus, page 24

STOCK MARKETS

New York: Dow Jones 2681.53 (-11.07)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 36821.14 (-22.22)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng 2754.84 (+3.08)

Amsterdam: CBS Tendancy 1144.45 (+1.07)

Sydney: ASX 1186.53 (-10.85)

Frankfurt DAX 1802.48 (+13.98)

Brisbane: General 6480.45 (+20.44)

Paris: CAC 533.5 (-1.4)

Zurich: SIA Glan 614.5 (+2.4)

London: FT-A All-Share 1198.53 (-10.85)

FT- "500" 1294.63 (+13.04)

FT: Gold Mines 357.4 (-1.4)

FT: Fixed Interest 92.23 (-0.25)

FT: Govt Secs 81.62 (-0.74)

Recent issues Page 27

Closing prices Page 28

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Rises:

Guinness 663.5p (+20.0)

Standard Char 563p (+14.0)

Smithfield Becham 560.5p (+12.0)

Poly Pack 414.5p (+12.0)

Entoural Units 845p (+12.0)

Car & Vehicles 580.5p (+12.0)

Hecklers Group 257.4p (+15.0)

Micro Focus 507.5p (+15.0)

Racial Telecom 369.5p (+10.0)

Lowe Group 432.5p (+15.0)

J Smurfit 547.5p (+15.0)

Rock Org 850.5p (+15.0)

Urgo 677.5p (+12.0)

Falls:

SA Breweries 555p (-15.0)

Bordens 775p (-20.0)

Lookers 133p (-14.0)

Descooter 620p (-10.0)

Smith & Satch 241.5p (-12.0)

Closing prices 267p

SEAC Volume 429.0m

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%

3-month Interbank 15%+15%

US: Prime Rate: 17%

French: 15%+15%

3-month Treasury Bills: 7.65-7.67%

30-year bonds 9.52-9.53%

CURRENCIES

London: New York: £ 1.6495

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

£ 2.7852

TEMPUS

Strike! First Leisure bowls a winner

According to Mr John Conlan, chief executive of First Leisure, the pioneers tend to be the men with the arrows in their backs. It is a refreshingly cautious view from an industry which has been exploding with expensive and ambitious projects over the past decade and in which some companies are beginning to come to grief.

First Leisure's sights are firmly fixed on high turnover, high margin businesses which means no £100 million theme parks. The strategy is working well. The group's discos, bowling clubs and resorts helped boost profits in the year to October by 25 per cent to £25.2 million. Turnover rose 13 per cent to £91.7 million and eps rose 33 per cent to 13.7p. The dividend is up 25 per cent at 3.7p.

First Leisure does have a reputation for being innovative. It set in motion the revival of 10-pin bowling in Britain. The Super Bowls centres are the main reason the sports division profits are up 38 per cent at £7.45 million.

The dancing division increased profits by 20 per cent to £10.3 million despite the hot summer. First Leisure has been buying retail sites from the likes of Magnet, MFI and Lowndes Queensway and converting them into discos and edge-of-town multi-facility leisure centres.

The resorts division increased profits by 10 per cent to £12.5 million and the group is redeveloping Blackpool Pier and the area under Blackpool Tower. The theatre division saw profits drop 7 per cent to £1.2 million as two London theatres switched from *South Pacific* and *Cats* to *Aspects of Love* and *Anything Goes*.

This year should see the group move into Europe, particularly



Working for leisure: John Conlan (left) with Nick Irwin, the finance director of First Leisure, on a site in Milton Keynes

where it believes its disco and bowling formulas would be successful. It is speaking to possible European partners and is likely to favour a group with some property expertise. In Britain the group would like to add another leg to its leisure business. Bingo, provincial casinos and hotels are three possible areas and the group has not ruled out a big bid in Britain.

At 235p, up 3p, the shares are on a prospective p/e ratio of 14.4 but the company's record and policy of increasing pre-tax profits and eps by 20 per cent per annum make them a good long-term buy.

Barbour Index

Global corporations have recently woken up to the profits and cash flow potential from specialist information busi-

nesses, and spent the last two years paying high prices for them. But there are still successful independent companies out there: Barbour Index is one of them.

Barbour publishes an annual building materials reference manual, which is paid for by advertisers. From its launch in 1977 it has grown to become an industry standard and has annual revenue of more than £3 million. The guide is the pillar of Barbour's profits, and the company is projecting 20 per cent growth to continue for the next five

years. It also publishes 10 microfiche reference works, and is launching two or three more each year. The earliest now has 3,500 subscribers, while a more recent launch has only attracted three. Microfiche may be derided as obsolete

technology but no-one seems to have told Barbour's bottom line.

The only black spot in the figures is Computercam, an on-line computer information service for consultants which lost £104,000 in the half year, taken as an extraordinary item. Barbour is about to announce a joint venture with a marketing company to bring in much-needed subscribers.

The company's profits have risen consistently since the mid-eighties, and 1989 was no exception. Pre-tax profits for the six months to end-October were up 25 per cent to £2.73 million, on sales up 23 per cent to £6.27 million. The half-time pay out is 2p, up 60 per cent.

The company's independence is ensured by the chairman's 43 per cent stake, but Barbour does not rule out the possibility of a takeover, if the buyer has something useful to offer, especially in the marketing field. Any bid though would have to be well above the current 190p share price.

On brokers' forecasts of a £3.3 million profit this year, the p/e ratio is 15. Reasonable given the company's record in a fashionable sector.

Lookers

Since the end of the "car wars" of the mid-1980s, motor dealers have been among the market's best performers.

Lookers, the Vauxhall and Rover dealer based in Manchester, is no exception. In the five years ending in October, 1988, Lookers' earnings per share rose at an annual rate of over 30 per cent, while dividends were lifted by almost 25 per cent a year.

All good things, however, come to an end and the interest rates squeeze has put paid to Lookers' record. In the year to September, 1989, Lookers' own net interest charge rose 57 per cent to £4.74 million, and a 24 per cent rise in operating profits translated into a mere 8 per cent increase to £6.83 million at the pre-tax level.

The company also decided to slow down the expansion of its contract hire fleet, which added 2½ points to its tax charge, leaving earnings per share only 2 per cent up at 25.5p.

There was an additional problem caused by the uncertainty which followed Ford's acquisition of New Holland, which clipped £500,000 off the profits of its agricultural side. Lookers is hoping to solve this by buying Harris, a Ford tractor dealer, for £1.18 million.

Lookers is giving warning that profits in the first half of the current year will be reduced and there will be an even bigger setback to earnings because of the dilution caused by the purchase in August of SMAC, the southern car dealer, for £14.7 million in cash and preference shares.

Analysts now expect profits of £7.4 million for the full year and a fall of one-fifth in fully diluted earnings to 20p, leaving the shares, down 14p at 135p, on a prospective p/e ratio of 7. Although that may reflect the gloomy trading outlook, speculative interest in the sector has already manifested itself in the Saudi bid for Harwells and the combined 40 per cent stake in Lookers held by Woodchester Investments and T Cowie形成 the platform for a bid. Do not sell.

Directors recommend Walter Alexander bid

The directors of Walter Alexander, the family-controlled Scottish mini-conglomerate, have recommended a £32 million bid from a private company backed by Granville, the merchant bank, and institutions in Scotland and the City.

The new company, Spottiswoode, whose cash offer is worth 113p per share, will be chaired by Mr Robin Hodges, Granville's managing director. A 0.5p special dividend will be paid to shareholders once the bid is unconditional. Last week, the company announced plans to sell its loss-making Shambleside quilts business. Spottiswoode is likely to sell the liquid fuel and DIY materials distribution businesses. The remaining coach building and filtration divisions will be demerged and groomed for public quotes.

Dalepak leap to £704,000.

Dalepak Foods absorbed an "unprecedented" 50 per cent jump in pigment raw material prices and advanced pre-tax profits by nearly 40 per cent to £704,000 in the half-year to October. Turnover rose £2.3 million to £16.7 million. The interim dividend rose to 1.035p (9.5p), on eps of 4.09p (2.96p). RZW, the broker, expects full-year profits of £1.8 million against £1.4 million.

Greenwich £2m in red

Greenwich Resources, the troubled gold mining company, tumbled by interest costs and a sharp jump in pigment raw material prices and advanced pre-tax profits by nearly 40 per cent to £704,000 in the half-year to October. Turnover rose £2.3 million to £16.7 million. The interim dividend rose to 1.035p (9.5p), on eps of 4.09p (2.96p). RZW, the broker, expects full-year profits of £1.8 million against £1.4 million.

Capital tunes into growth

Sir Richard Attlee, chairman of Capital Radio, the commercial radio group, told the annual meeting that 1989 had seen a substantial growth in advertising revenues and expansion in activities.

The company will stage a

Pilkington in £60m order

Pilkington Optoelectronics has a £60 million Ministry of Defence contract to make and supply integrated electro-optic periscope systems for the new Vanguard class of Trident submarine. The system will be made at the Barr and Stroud site in Glasgow. Mr Trevor Jones, Pilkington chairman, said: "The contract is important for its size and because it involves some of the most advanced technology."

BAA traffic grows 6%

The number of passengers using BAA's seven airports reached 4.9 million in December, up 6 per cent on last year. Over the 12 months, 70.39 million passed through, an increase of 5.1 per cent. There was more traffic at all airports in December with Heathrow up 7.1 per cent, taking its calendar 1989 total to 39.6 million passengers.

The sharp in short-haul charters continued, but December's fall of 17 per cent was less than in previous months.

North Atlantic traffic grew 4 per cent and other long-haul traffic 7 per cent. The number of flights jumped 4.9 per cent to 56,900, making 753,400 for the year, up 6.9 per cent.

MIM leaps 75% to surprise £57m

From David Tweed, Sydney

MIM Holdings, the Australian metals group, exceeded market expectations and boosted profits 75 per cent to Aus\$11.9 million (£5.75 million) expected to convert options on another 4.5 per cent into shares at Aus\$2.25 each at the end of this month and has a further 1.25 per cent of stock in April expiry options which convert at Aus\$2.25 a share.

First-half profit was aided by lower interest costs following reduction in debt after the sale of the 25 per cent stake in the loss-making Collinville and Newlands coal operation in Queensland.

Net borrowings were reduced to Aus\$838 million from Aus\$1.09 billion and the net interest expense fell substantially to Aus\$20.1 million from Aus\$43.4 million.

Warning over rates as Burndene nears £4m

Burndene Investments, the caravan and hoisery manufacturer, has lifted pre-tax profits by 11 per cent to £3.97 million in the year to September on sales 19 per cent ahead at £43.4 million.

But Mr David Caldow,

the chairman, gave a warning about the effect high interest rates could have on its main

Willyer Caravan subsidiary in the second half.

Earnings per share eased by

2 per cent to 24.8p last year

due to a 47 per cent rise in its

tax charge. This in turn was

connected with the clawback

of allowances on the disposal of properties following Willerby's move to new premises which also gave rise to an extraordinary gain of £3.2 million.

The final dividend is up by one-half to 5.5p, leaving the total 1p ahead at 8p. Profits from caravan manufacturing and its two small mobile home parks rose by 27 per cent to £3.08 million before tax last year on sales 17 per cent higher at £27.9 million. Those from hoisery rose a third to £571,000 on turnover up a quarter at £7.47 million.

Rise in Anglo-Soviet trade spurs call to foster Eastern bloc links

By Colin Narborough
Economics Correspondent

Anglo-Soviet trade picked up strongly late last year despite increasing reports that President Gorbachev's *perestroika* programme of reform is failing to deliver the promised improvements for the troubled Soviet economy.

A surprise £100 million surge in exports to the Soviet Union in November pushed the total for the first 11 months close to £600 million, up £86 million from the same period in 1988. Imports from the Soviet Union were £250 million higher at £782 million.

Encouraged by the pick-up in Soviet trade and the political changes opening up Eastern Europe, the Government yesterday signalled that it wants British businesses to move swiftly to take advantage of export opportunities emerging in the region and not let West Germany, Italy and France get too far ahead.

Mrs Thatcher made a major political investment in backing trade with the Soviet Union to give support to Mr Gorbachev, but results had, until recently, been disappointing.

A recent visit to Eastern Europe by Mr John Redwood, the Corporate Affairs Minister, gave him a highly favourable impression of the prospects for British business in the region.

Yesterday, in an attempt to inject fresh vigour into Eastern bloc trade, senior officials of the Department of Trade and Industry painted an encouraging picture of the scope for exporting more.

They sought to play down fears that fighting in the Soviet Caucasus would threaten business, pointing out that eco-



John Redwood: impressed by Eastern European openings

nomic activity would continue normally elsewhere.

Total British exports to the Eastern bloc in the first 11 months of last year were £1.2 billion, and imports were £1.6 billion. There were deficits with all countries in the region, apart from a modest £0.7 million surplus with Hungary.

Given the serious hard currency

is the operator. Enterprise Oil owns 20 per cent, Amoco 19 per cent and North Sea Oil has the remaining 10 per cent.

A spokesman for British Gas said: "It was important for us to secure a deal which will allow BG to compete effectively in this new era of competition to the benefit of our customers."

Mr Robert White, the chairman of Mobil North Sea, said: "This transaction marks an important new direction in

Mobil North Sea's activities. It is part of our long-term objective to become one of Britain's major suppliers of natural gas - both to British Gas directly and to other important customers as well."

Gas deliveries from BG are planned to begin in October.

At plateau production rates, the field will deliver an average of 240 million cubic feet of gas a day to British Gas, about 5 per cent of British Gas supplies.

Mobil North Sea's activities. It is part of our long-term objective to become one of Britain's major suppliers of natural gas - both to British Gas directly and to other important customers as well."

Gas deliveries from BG are planned to begin in October.

At plateau production rates, the field will deliver an average of 240 million cubic feet of gas a day to British Gas, about 5 per cent of British Gas supplies.

Mobil signs gas supply contract

By Our Energy Correspondent

The first contract for the sale of gas from the North Sea under new rules drawn up by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission has been signed between British Gas and Mobil.

Previously, British Gas insisted on contracting to take 100 per cent of the output of any natural field offered to it by the North Sea operators, but the MEC has ordered that

Mobil has a 50 per cent

interest in the Beryl field and

is the operator. Enterprise Oil owns 20 per cent, Amoco 19 per cent and North Sea Oil has the remaining 10 per cent.

A spokesman for British Gas said: "It was important for us to secure a deal which will allow BG to compete effectively in this new era of competition to the benefit of our customers."

Mr Robert White, the chairman of Mobil North Sea, said: "This transaction marks an important new direction in

in the UK. In turn, it added that since uranium reserves are finite, the efficient exploitation of nuclear power itself ultimately depended on the fast reactor.

As we have stressed, the fast reactors are of vital strategic and eventually commercial importance to the UK. It is, therefore, important that urgent attention is given to obtaining a solution to the issue and this requires the involvement of government and of the newly-privatised energy supply industry."

The AEA said that the strategic need for diversification, and ultimately for the replacement of fossil fuels, has been the driving force for the development of nuclear power

in the UK. In turn, it added that since uranium reserves are finite, the efficient exploitation of nuclear power itself ultimately depended on the fast reactor.

But the AEA added: "Recently, however, it has been given added emphasis and urgency by the growing appreciation that the damage being done to the environment by the use of fossil fuels may require drastic restrictions on their use. We, therefore, believe that greater reliance on the fast reactor is a necessary consequence of such restrictions and that the timescale for the large-scale introduction of fast reactors may need to be brought forward."

"The AEA's view has consistently been

that the UK must retain access to the technology through direct participation in its development."

"Only in this way can we be confident that the UK will be able to deploy fast reactors when we need them without being entirely dependent on other countries to supply the technology."

The AEA told the select committee that on being able to licence the technology when required, or to abandon any prospect of using the technology at all, would run the risk of not having a secure source of electricity in the future in Britain at an economic price."

Energy industry 'must continue breeder funding'

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

The electricity industry must agree to continue funding the European fast breeder programme - the research to provide the next generation of nuclear power stations - after it is privatized, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority has told the influential Commons energy select committee.

The Government has already announced it is cutting its funding for research into nuclear power and the Central Electricity Generating Board has had to end its contribution into the

research because it is being privatized. The Atomic

recommend
Alexander bid
McLanahan, the family-owned
mining equipment manufacturer, has
been taken over by Grammer, the
French-based company. The deal
is worth £12.5 million and the City
is predicting a 50.9 per cent of value
creation. The deal is being funded by
a mix of cash and debt. The
transaction is being handled by
a specialist financial advisor, Lazard
Frères, which is also involved in the
transaction. The transaction is
expected to be completed by the end of
the year.

Daipeak leap
to £104,000
Daipeak, a food company, has
announced a 50 per cent
increase in turnover for
the year ended last
October. Turnover
rose from £104,000
in 1988 to £104,000
in 1989. The
company's
turnover
is
now
£104,000.

UPI, based in Newark, Nottinghamshire, claims 15 per cent of the world market in specialist bearings and is world leader in aerospace applications.

Managers share £22m as Japanese buy UPI

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

UPI, the specialist bearings maker which was the subject of a £7.5 million management buy-in two years ago, is being acquired for £145 million by Nippon Seiko KK, the second-largest bearing maker in the world.

The deal means 40 UPI managers, led by Mr Alan Bowkett, chief executive and leader of the buy-in from the former RHP group, share £22 million. They have held 15 per cent of the equity, the rest being with City institutions.

UPI, based in Newark, Nottinghamshire, claims 15 per cent of the world market in specialist bearings and is world leader in aerospace applications.

In the year ended last

September, UPI had sales of £128.9 million and a pre-tax profit of £19.7 million. It employs 3,800 people.

UPI's management team is in place — most are on three-year contracts — and UPI will continue to run as a separate entity, even though NSK has a factory at Peterlee, County Durham, which employs 700. But there is no product overlap because NSK is in high volume bearings for items such as washing machines.

Together, NSK and UPI account for only 5 per cent of the continental European bearings market and NSK wants to increase this. It is planning fresh investment, especially in UPI, and in a

research and development facility based in Britain. World leader SKF has 30 per cent of the European market.

Mr Sadao Hirano, senior managing director of NSK, said: "We are very happy with this company and the way it is run. We have complementary strengths and we believe that together we can create a new force in the European bearing industry with the UK as the main manufacturing base."

Mr Bowkett said: "One option would have been to go for a public flotation towards the end of 1990, and although it would not doubt have been reasonably successful, we would have faced the problem of being a medium-sized company in the engineering sector

that was adopting a long-term growth strategy. If, at some point, short-term earnings had not been up to the mark, we could have been vulnerable to a hostile takeover bid from somebody we might not have been happy about. This way we are dealing with people with a similar outlook and we get access to the best technology."

UPI has been working with NSK closely since the buy-in and expects the deal to improve its chances of supplying the British factories of Japanese car makers with its specialist automotive bearings.

Mr Bowkett also sees the chance of import substitution, as 68 per cent of bearings sold in Britain are now imported.

Trilion switches to £1.1m profit

By Matthew Bond

Nine months without any London studios explains the sharp fall in operating profits reported by Trilion, the television group which brought American football and *Smash* to British television screens.

Operating profits fell from £784,000 to £285,000 in the year to last September, with turnover down from £16.1 million to £13.6 million.

The fall followed the group's enforced move from its London Docklands' studios and the delay in finding new premises.

However, interest earned on the £25 million it received from the sale, together with a £546,000 exceptional profit from the sale of its 9.5 per cent stake in Broadcast Communications, helped the group to a £1.13 million pre-tax profit, compared with a £602,000 loss in 1988.

The company also returns to the dividend list with an 0.5p per share distribution.

After a year of great upheaval, Mr Ian Reed, the chairman, was confident about the group's future.

He said: "We have spent the last two years restructuring the company to produce a winning formula for the future."

The £15 million received from Olympia & York, the Docklands' developer, has wiped out borrowings which last year stood at £16 million.

A further 25 million was spent to buy the former Lee International film studios in Wembley, which it has now converted to use for television.

The remaining cash is earmarked for acquisitions.



Confident after a year of upheaval: Ian Reed, the chairman of Trilion, yesterday

Euromoney to be traded in London

By Jeremy Andrews

Trading in the shares of Euromoney Publications, the financial magazine publisher, is to move from Luxembourg to London on Monday following a £3.5 million placing which enables the company to meet the Stock Exchange's listing requirements.

The shares came equally from the family holdings of Sir Patrick Sergeant, Euromoney's chairman, and the Daily Mail and General Trust, but the placing price of 35p was below the 46p obtained when

the company was floated in 1986.

Euromoney has built up a range of activities, including conferences and electronic databases, but its main money-spinner remains its flagship magazine. This was founded in 1969 by Sir Patrick, who was then City editor of the *Daily Mail*, and is exceptionally profitable for a monthly title with a circulation of 28,000.

When the company was floated in 1986, Associated Newspapers had been unwilling to allow its holding to fall

sufficiently to meet the Stock Exchange's requirement that 25 per cent of the equity be in free hands. Now, however, the Exchange has agreed to admit Euromoney to the official list even though only 21.5 per cent will be on the market.

The placing has cut Daily Mail and General Trust's stake to 76.1 per cent, but the holding of Sir Patrick's family has been halved to 486,000 shares, or 24 per cent of the total. The placing price compares with 368p indicated in Luxembourg beforehand.

Sir Patrick said that as the

company served the international capital markets, it had wanted to show its faith in them by becoming a euro-equity. However, certain UK pension funds had not been able to become shareholders' while it was not listed in London.

Although Euromoney had built up £18 million cash by last September, the proprietors of some businesses it was interested in acquiring wanted shares for personal tax reasons. Sir Patrick said that four possible acquisitions were being studied.

New slot for a hot shot

Undeterred by recent job losses in the Square Mile, UBS Securities, the Wall Street equivalent of UBS Phillips & Drew, has just beefed up its coverage of UK and European equities within the United States by poaching one of the top teams in the business from rival investment bank Morgan Stanley. American broker Kevin Plunkett, described as a "Wall Street hot shot," has just resigned as the managing director responsible for worldwide equity trading at Morgan Stanley to join UBS, where he will be given the similar title of managing director. "He will be responsible for all international equities trading which effectively means all non-dollar stocks," says Geoffrey Redman-Brown of UBS Phillips & Drew. And Plunkett is bringing with him his two-man team, comprising Michael Stener and Gerry Kenealy, both of whom will join the international sales desk in New York. "The addition of this respected team should cement our position as the best European equities firm in the United States by, in particular, raising our profile in the American Depository Receipt market," says Hector Sants, head of UBS P&D and the man responsible for European equities worldwide. Sants himself once ran the New York international equities business — until he returned to London two years ago to assume his present job from Dr Paul Neill.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Writing off the wall

In accordance with American corporate attitudes towards the power of positive thinking, a huge sign, measuring three feet by at least 10 feet, used to hang down over the dealing floor at Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers in its luxurious Thames-side offices in Southwark. It was based on the firm's so-called "mission,"

Oxford, he signed up for ICL's graduate trainee scheme to learn computer programming, systems engineering and salesmanship. It was during this time that he earned his nickname — when he was seconded to a Russian nuclear physics research laboratory where he spent nine weeks helping to send atoms round a circuit several kilometres long.

Barclaywhere

Barclays Bank has been seeking publicity in the Northern Ireland media for its new "nationwide" over-the-counter share dealing scheme, urging investors to pop into their local branch to sell British Gas shares at low commission. Barclays chairman Gavin Oldham waxed on about the convenience of dealing at a local branch. Perhaps he should be told that Barclays does not have one branch in Northern Ireland and the service can thus hardly be described as nationwide.

Big-ticket team swaps

An entire three-man project finance team at Schroders, the merchant bank, has just joined Babcock & Brown, an international leasing company, and a subsidiary of USM-quoted York Trust. The most senior is Nicolas Lethbridge, who was project finance director, and his two colleagues are Norman Crowe and Peter Pollak. Babcock's activities in project finance in both the US and Japan are well established, and the arrival of Lethbridge and his team means they can now expand into Britain. "Their expertise in project financing will complement our existing big-ticket lease financing operations," says Peter Vardigans, Babcock & Brown's chief executive. At Schroders, this they worked on projects like the Channel Tunnel, the Dartford Crossing and the Second Severn Crossing.

It is certainly going to be all change for the directors of hotel group Norfolk Capital in their bid to fight off the unwanted attentions of Peter Tyrie and his Balmoral group. Norfolk had booked space for 150 at the New Compton Rooms for its open on January 29, but it has now decided that considerably more of its 21,000 shareholders will attend than originally anticipated and thus, although the meeting will be officially convened at the NCR, it will then be adjourned to the more spacious London Press Centre — a good 10-minute walk away. Bring an umbrella... and stout soles.

Carol Leonard

News Corp promotes senior executives

Mr Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of The News Corporation, the international media group which owns *The Times* through News International in Britain, has promoted four senior executives to newly-created responsibilities reporting directly to him in a strengthened central group management team.

Mr William O'Neill, formerly managing director of News International, becomes executive vice-president for human resources; Mr John Evans, formerly president of Murdoch Magazines, becomes executive vice-president for development; Mr Lawrence Kessler, formerly a vice-president and general counsel of News America, takes the same responsibilities for the worldwide group; and Mr Jeffrey Leist, formerly a vice-president and treasurer, becomes executive vice-president for administration.

The four have a combined 63 years' service with the group. In addition, Mr David DeVoe has been appointed deputy to Mr Richard Sarazen, the group's chief financial officer.

Mr Murdoch said: "These changes are necessary to create greater depth in our executive group to deal with our intensified programme of international expansion and to cope with the rapid development of new and complex forms of media."

"All these appointments are made internally. They are executives who have grown with News Corporation."

Hambros link with Dutch in M&A deal

By Neil Bennett

Hambros, the merchant bank, has signed a deal with Amsterdamsche Investeringbank, a Dutch investment bank, to co-operate on merger and acquisitions work.

This is the latest addition to Hambros' European network of partners. It is also negotiating with a bank in Austria.

Sir Michael Butler, Hambros' director in charge of European expansion, revealed almost 5 per cent of the bank's shares are held by Mitsui Bank, the Japanese bank.

The European network enabled Hambros to participate in four deals worth up to £200 million last year. Hambros and AIB hope to reveal their first deal, worth 20 million guilders (£6.25 million).

COMMENT

Soft commissions hold key for independents

The demise of the name Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers is another reminder of the decline of share research in the City — as perceived at least by a number of institutions. A decade ago, they rated Scrimgeour as the top research house, while Vickers da Costa was highly regarded.

Stephen Lewis, formerly of Phillips & Drew, pioneered the trend to independence and has been followed by Tim Congdon, formerly of Messels. But the more redundancies there are among well-regarded equity analysts, and there have been several recently, the more one-man independents there will be.

The main institutional complaint is that objectivity may have been a casualty of the securities groups' struggle to grab limited business or may serve the books of marketmakers and brokers who take their own positions. That danger may have been exaggerated. In anecdotal terms, the findings of the report into County NatWest's handling of Blue Arrow are matched by a bank share analyst who recommended a sale of his parent company's shares. But confidence has been

This can only help the new soft commission brokers, such as Hoenig & Co, who sell fund managers bought-in services, which can include research, for fixed guaranteed commissions. Thus far, however, there has been a dearth of independent researchers of stature — despite the flowering of one or two in the early seventies. In the equities field, Jeremy Utton's Metropolitan General Investment, which sells its specialized smaller companies research to several top investment groups, is the most prominent. Metropolitan is now trying to sell directly to private clients via a monthly magazine.

There is much more on offer in economic forecasting, usually aimed at gilt-edged and bond markets, where

Velvet touch for Guinness

If the market is concerned about the guerrilla warfare going on in Paris over the future of LVMH, there was not the slightest sign of it yesterday. Guinness has sunk more than £1 billion into the French luxury goods group in exchange for its 24 per cent stake, and stands to suffer if a court ruling goes against it in Paris tomorrow. But yesterday market-makers had eyes only for the brilliant performance of LVMH during 1989.

LVMH indicated a provisional 45 per cent rise in profits to about £305 million even though the final figures will not be available for some time.

Guinness shares responded with a 20p rise to 664p, even though the advance at LVMH was no more than the better broking firms were expecting.

At the heart of this positive response is relief that the battle going on inside

LVMH has not affected its trading performance one jot.

Perhaps surprisingly, the star performance emerged from Louis Vuitton, the up-market leather goods manufacturer. Turnover climbed 33 per cent. The group's portfolio of perfume brands, surely the envy of all its competitors, on 1990 profits, are well worth buying.

CAPITAL FOR YOU

CAPITAL FOR YOUR BUSINESS

At Last A Commercial or Residential Mortgage or Remortgage with Nothing to Pay Until After The Next General Election

1989 has been a difficult year for Company Directors and the Self Employed with high interest rates and a squeeze on company profits. At Berkeley St. James's we fully recognise that these difficult conditions can lead to cash flow problems.

This is why we have developed the Berkeley St. James's Business Development Programme which will put capital into your business and allow you to defer interest payments until 1992.

Residential or commercial

mortgages or remortgages can be arranged quickly, efficiently and without fuss, on very attractive terms. There is no need to prove your income and there is no requirement to show your Accounts.

The Business Development Programme could put more capital into your business or you could simply release capital from residential or commercial property for investment now.

The minimum loan is £75,000. The maximum loan is £1m.

To arrange for a meeting without any obligation or costs on your part, simply call Trevor Downing or Nick Kemp on

01-222 8785

To: Berkeley St. James's Financial Management Limited
FREEPOST, London, SW1H 9BR. Telephone: 01-222 8785.

Please contact me as soon as possible

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

DAYTIME TEL No. _____

EVENING TEL No. _____

OCCUPATION _____

FIMBRA

B|S|J

BERKELEY ST. JAMES'S

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT LTD

Licensed Credit Broker

Not all the products/services advertised here are regulated by the Financial Services Act 1986 and the rules made for the protection of investors by that Act will not apply to them.

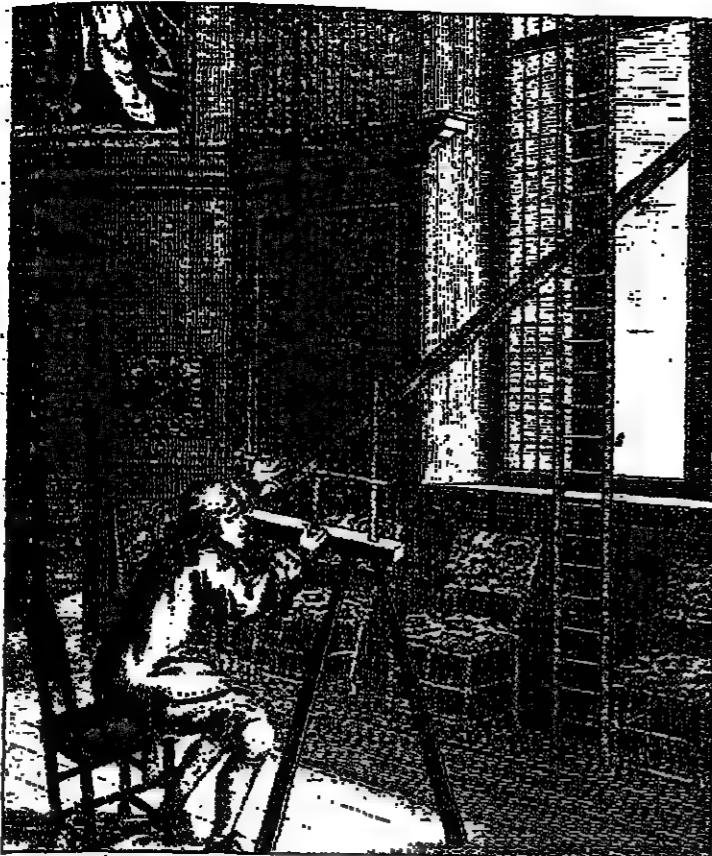
Would you have the nerve to take a train ride that could last 15 years?

We would. We're Montedison, Italy's largest fine chemical company, part of the Ferruzzi Group. And we know that, if you want to change the future, you've got to start planning for it now. Materials chemistry. Health care. Clean energy. These are the fields of our endeavours. And these are the fields in which we are among the world leaders. It is only by creating solutions that are technologically and socially advanced, and compatible with our environment, that we can have an alternative that spells progress. And to do this, to be prepared for tomorrow, we must place research at the heart of our industrial system. This is what we are doing. And we're doing it with success. Every year we invest more than £200 million in Research and Development.

 **MONTEBISON**
Gruppo Ferruzzi

NEXT GENERATION CHEMISTRY

Stargazing: past and future



Old ways: in the 17th century, astronomers used refracting telescopes

Big telescopes are back. Astronomy in the 1990s promises to unlock the secrets of the universe. Pearce Wright looks at a new twist in the space race

After playing second fiddle to radio astronomy for decades and suffering the withering hand of bureaucracy, Britain's optical astronomers are back in the race to uncover the great secrets of the evolution of the universe.

For years, while Jodrell Bank became a household name and radio astronomers at Cambridge discovered the pulsar and earned Nobel prizes, optical astronomy slipped from its international position and up-and-coming British astronomers joined the brain drain to the modern American observatories at Mount Palomar, Kitt Peak and Mount Wilson.

But, once again, astronomy, with new techniques, computers and super-sensitive instruments, is poised to return to the forefront. Several events mark this year as the start of a new epoch for Britain in particular, and for the world of ground-based astronomy in general.

One is the realization this month of a long-held dream of optical astronomers. It has arrived with the success of a revolutionary technique, called adaptive optics, which eliminates the distortion of images recorded from telescopes on photographic plates or electronic detectors because of the Earth's atmosphere.

A second milestone comes in March, when the telescopes of the 315-year-old Royal Greenwich Observatory (RGO) which have been at Herstmonceux Castle, Sussex, since 1948, will be abandoned. The staff and nameplate will be moved to a new office block and workshop in Cambridge, but there will be no telescopes there. Since 1980, the RGO team have been building new telescopes on the island of La Palma, in the Canaries.

The transfer of the RGO to Cambridge is the culmination of a much-needed revival of British optical astronomy. It involved building a new generation of large optical instruments. Even after the move to Herstmonceux, British optical astronomers were handicapped by the cloudy skies over Britain which reduced good viewing to as few as 50 nights per year.

Their dilemma was compounded by a 10-year argument about where to place a new Greenwich telescope, to be called

the Isaac Newton Telescope (INT). Work on the INT eventually began in 1967 at Herstmonceux. In 1981, it was totally refurbished with a modern mirror system and a set of electronic and mechanical controls and moved to the clear skies of La Palma.

Since the invention of the telescope more than 350 years ago, astronomers have had to resign themselves to the limit imposed by atmospheric turbulence on the clarity of images they see.

Twinkling stars might appear to romantics, but frustrated astronomers dismiss as "bad seeing" the flickering effect caused when starlight travels through hot and cold ripples of air high in the atmosphere. Mountain-top viewing removes some of this problem caused by air currents in the lower atmosphere. But at heights between five to 10 kilometres, there are swarms of small pockets of air that bevel even the best mountain-top retreats.

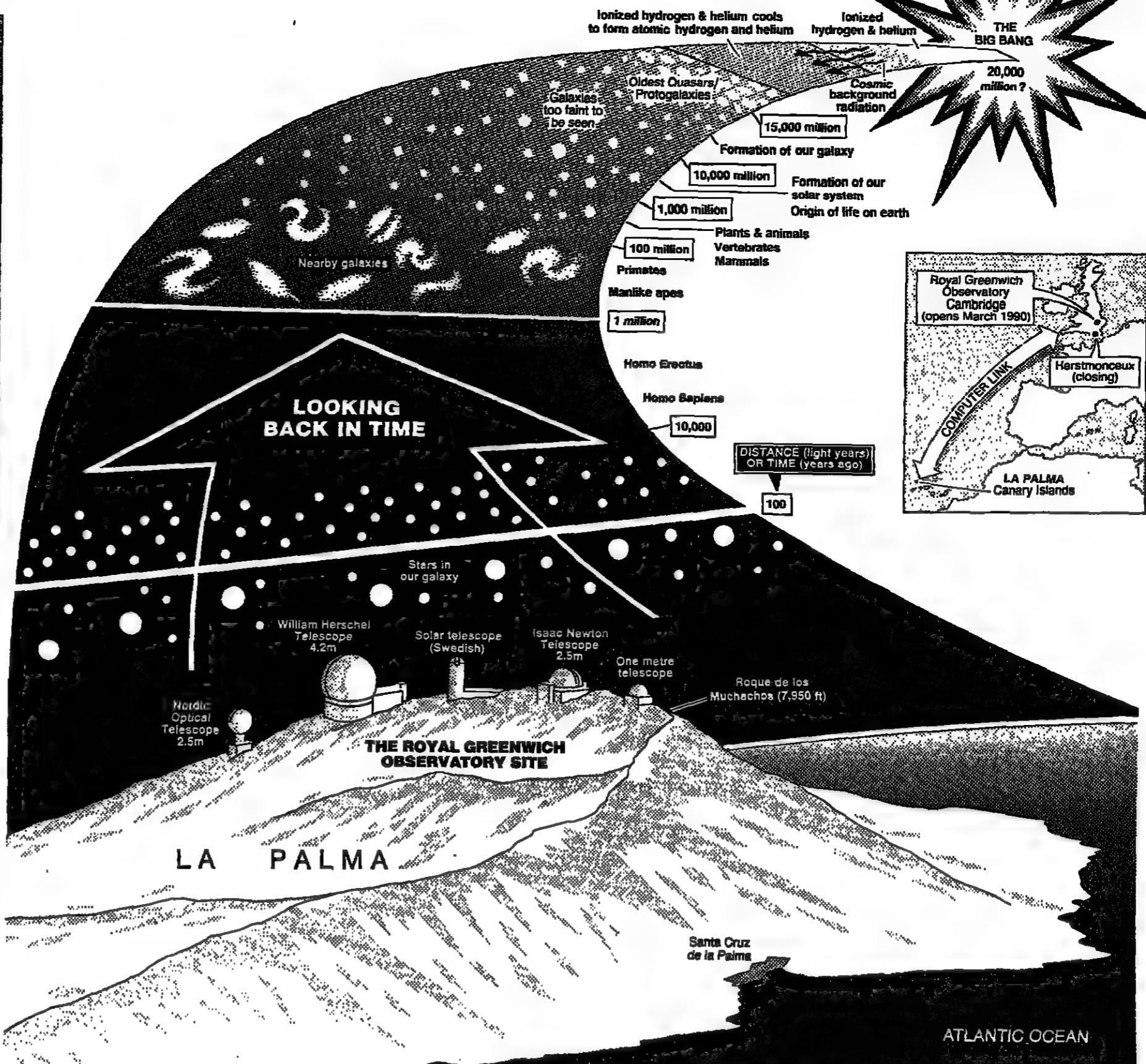
Atmospheric interference was the reason for the first move of the RGO to Sussex, from the knoll on which it was founded in Greenwich Park by King Charles II, in 1675.

Using the new electronic detectors, Professor Alec Boksenberg, the RGO director, and Dr Charles Steidel and Dr Wallace Sargent of the California Institute of Technology, in Pasadena, California, have found a way to detect and probe the chemistry of galaxies in the remotest parts of the universe. This can be done by analysing light from quasars, or quasi-stellar objects: the baffling things that look like a point of light from a bright single star but emit more energy than 100 supergiant galaxies.

Professor Boksenberg's pioneering work is helping most of the large observatories to probe the farthest reaches of the universe, picking out hitherto invisible objects.

Modern professional astronomers rarely look through their telescopes. For years, most observations involved focusing the light on photographic plates, and, more recently, on electronic devices, recording images or computer data to be scrutinized later in the laboratory.

When the modern age of optical astronomy began with pictures recorded on photographic plates,



GIVING THE BBC THE PIPS: ROYAL GREENWICH OBSERVATORY HANDS OVER A TIME-HONOURED ROLE

Atomic clocks around the world provide exact measurements

A new era in time-keeping begins next month when the Royal Greenwich Observatory (RGO) hands over to the BBC responsibility for the six-pips time service, the signal which made Greenwich Mean Time a household name.

The Greenwich signal was first broadcast by the BBC at 9.30pm on Tuesday, February 5, 1924.

Sir Frank Dyson, the ninth Astronomer Royal, introduced the first signal at the request of John (later Lord) Reith. It was derived from the second movement of a long-case pendulum clock. This generated electrical impulses that were sent by landline to the 2LO (medium wave broadcasting) studio at Savoy Hill, on the Embankment, London, for wireless transmission through the British Isles as six dots, the last of which indicated the beginning of the minute.

Gradually the use of the signal spread, and today it is broadcast



Split second: Greenwich's Tony Seebrook adjusts the pip-generating equipment at Herstmonceux, Sussex

throughout the world on the BBC Home and World Services.

The first public time signal came into operation at Greenwich Observatory in 1833, when a bell was hoisted to the top of a mast at 12.55pm every day and dropped at 1pm.

Ships on the Thames could check their chronometers, which were essential for measuring longitude and navigating by the sun and the stars.

The advent of the railways brought pressure for accurate time keeping for railway timetables.

Yet it was only in 1880 that Greenwich Mean Time was made the legal time of Britain.

In 1884, the Greenwich meridian was formally adopted as the zero longitude of the world and the basis of the world's time zones.

With the invention of the quartz clock 50 years ago, bringing time-keeping to an accuracy of 0.001 seconds a day, irregular changes

were detected in the rotation of the Earth, revealing a potential discrepancy in using local solar time for precise measurements.

There is a growing need for precise time for international communications and position-fixing systems, particularly for operations involving spacecraft.

The quartz clock was followed by atomic and caesium devices, measuring a few millionths of a second, for scientific purposes.

The signal is now derived from more than 100 atomic clocks around the world. They provide a time-scale that is commonly called GMT, but in fact is a system of Co-ordinated Universal Time, adopted 18 years ago.

Key dates

1675: RGO founded.

1833: First public time-ball signal.

1852: First time signals from Greenwich by electric telegraph.

1880: GMT made legal time in Britain.

1884: Longitude of Greenwich adopted as basis of world time zones.

1924: Greenwich six pips first transmitted.

1939: First quartz clock at Greenwich.

1966: First atomic clock at Greenwich.

1972: Co-ordinated Universal Time introduced. Sixth pip made a long one.

1990: BBC takes over the pips.

Meanwhile, the great telescope race promises to hot up. It will be fuelled when the Hubble Space Telescope is launched into orbit by the American National Aeronautics Space Administration (Nasa), using a shuttle, later this year.

Chemical analysis of objects within range of ground-based telescopes has suggested that different elements are made in various types of stars at different times in their lives.

And, since light from any celestial object takes a finite amount of time to reach Earth, the observers are looking at objects as they were long ago, when the universe was in its infancy.

The light from quasars also has a distinctive characteristic known as red shift, which is an optical effect indicating that an object is travelling at great speed away from the observer. Different red shifts correspond to different distances.

When the characteristics of the light from various distant quasars, and the effect, on it, of clouds of gas and dust in intervening galaxies between the Earth and the quasars are taken into account, the scientists calculate they are over a time-span from 1.5 billion years to four billion years after the birth of the universe.

Scientists believe that some quasars are the most distant objects to be observed in the

universe. According to the theory, only hydrogen and helium were formed in the Big Bang creation of the universe about 15 billion to 20 billion years ago. Heavier elements formed in the stars inside galaxies relatively soon afterwards, within four billion years.

Chemical analysis of objects within range of ground-based telescopes has suggested that different elements are made in various types of stars at different times in their lives.

And, since light from any celestial object takes a finite amount of time to reach Earth, the observers are looking at objects as they were long ago, when the universe was in its infancy.

The light from quasars also has a distinctive characteristic known as red shift, which is an optical effect indicating that an object is travelling at great speed away from the observer. Different red shifts correspond to different distances.

When the characteristics of the light from various distant quasars, and the effect, on it, of clouds of gas and dust in intervening galaxies between the Earth and the quasars are taken into account, the scientists calculate they are over a time-span from 1.5 billion years to four billion years after the birth of the universe.

Scientists believe that some quasars are the most distant objects to be observed in the

FREE NEC PRINTER WITH ORDERS BEFORE 31 JANUARY!

NEC Powermate 286 Plus
VGA monitor
1MB 12 Mhz RAM
42Mb hard disk
MS-DOS 3.3

Bundled price £2195 - includes free 24 pin letter quality printer and THREE YEAR PC WARRANTY
Volume discounts available

MICRO TECHNOLOGY GROUP
6 Grampian House, 205 Marsh Wall,
Meridian Gate, London E14 9XT

Telephone: 01-924 1945/6/7
for instant response



Front-Ends & Back-Ends.

Morse have long been users of Linotype imagers. Today we are dealers. We can now show you how to avoid the trouble and expense of using a typesetting bureau. With Postscript interface, a Linotype imager plugs straight into your IBM, Sun or Mac 'front-end'. Call us for a demonstration of the industry-leading 'back-end'.

MORSE 78 High Holborn, London WC1. 01-831 0644
17 Sheen Lane, Mortlake SW14. 01-876 0404

Linotype

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Thomson Prentice
reports on a call
for tighter medical
controls at the
ringside

Apunch on the head from heavyweight boxer Frank Bruno is like being struck by a 14-pound padded mallet travelling at 20 miles an hour, a medical conference was told this week. The full force of such a punch is equivalent to about half a ton, according to the results of a series of controlled experiments in which Bruno took part, and which have been reported in the *British Medical Journal*.

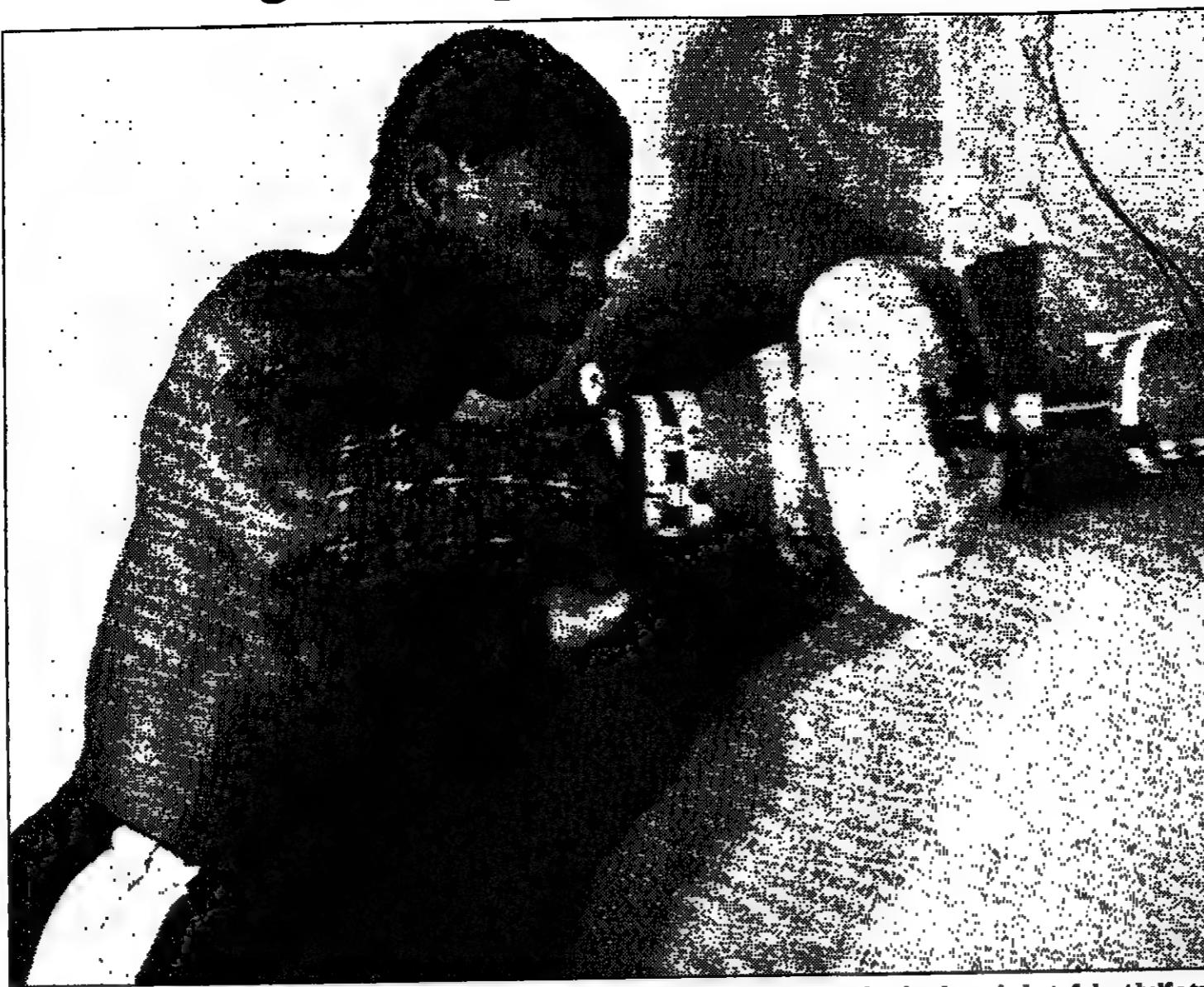
The unnerving statistics were used by Owen Sparrow, honorary consultant neurosurgeon at the London Hospital, Whitechapel, at a conference on head injuries to demonstrate the potential dangers of the sport.

Although head injuries in boxing are rarely fatal, with 28 boxing deaths recorded world-wide between 1979 and 1985, up to 55 per cent of professional boxers suffer some form of brain damage, Sparrow told the conference, organized by the College of Occupational Therapists.

The most likely type of damage is boxing encephalopathy, sometimes known as dementia pugilistica, or punch drunk syndrome. Researchers have linked the brain damage caused to boxers with epilepsy and Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of senile dementia. Last year Dr Jeffrey Cundy, a consultant anaesthetist at Lewisham Hospital, south London, and a member of the British Medical Association's working party on boxing, said that about one in five boxers showed a type of abnormal electrical activity in the brain, similar to that found in epilepsy sufferers.

Dr Gareth Roberts, a neuro-chemist at the Clinical Research Centre, Harrow, Middlesex, found similarities in post mortem samples of brain tissue from a group of retired boxers and from patients with Alzheimer's disease.

Sparrow told the conference of a recent case of an unidentified boxer admitted to the London Hospital after being knocked out. A large blood clot was removed

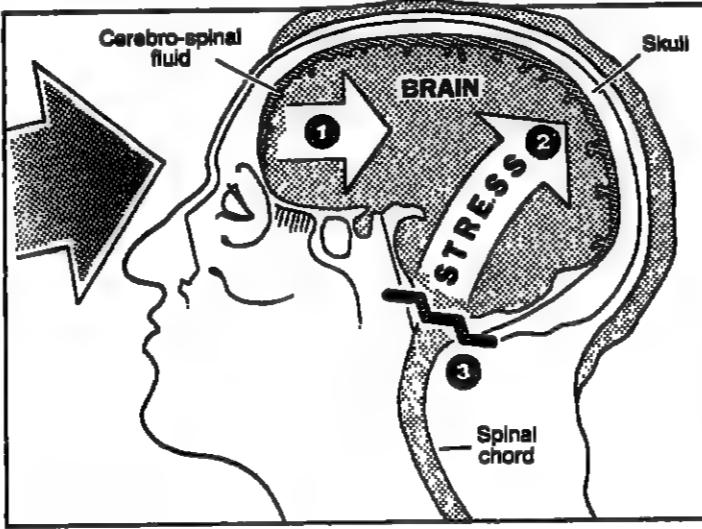


Packing a punch: Frank Bruno throws his famous right at the target in a series of medical tests, registering the equivalent of about half a ton

from his brain, but the boxer was severely disabled by the injury. "The means of preventing these injuries has to be sensible regulations, and prompt medical intervention, not at the whim of the referee but at the insistence of the doctor who must be at the ringside," Sparrow said.

He advocated neuropsychological tests for boxers who appeared to have been injured, and said the careers of those found to be at risk should be ended.

Despite the hazards, boxing is low on a league table of lethal sports, Sparrow said. According to a study in the United States, the estimated risk of death in boxers was 13 per 10,000 participants, compared with 128 per 10,000 jockeys in horse racing.



- 1 The brain is surrounded by fluid, so it can move forwards and backwards within the skull. A severe blow to the head causes concussion and bruising.
- 2 A similar effect occurs opposite the point of impact due to damage to small blood vessels and nervous tissue.
- 3 An extremely severe blow can cause death from a sudden displacement backwards of the neck. Repeated blows can lead to increasing loss of brain tissue, resulting in boxing encephalopathy, sometimes known as dementia pugilistica, or punch drunk syndrome. It is common among retired boxers, and the symptoms include slurred speech, unsteady gait, impaired memory and slowed mental reactions.

NEW TECHNOLOGY

HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT & ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

ENGINEERING SUPPORT SERVICES

TWO SENIOR COMPUTER POSTS - BRISTOL
SALARY RANGE £16,743 - £18,225 (UNDER REVIEW)

Two important posts have been created to enhance computer services, and develop management systems and computer applications for use throughout the Department of Highways, Transport & Engineering.

Computing Services & User Support

Post Ref : HTE/24004/T2

Experience should cover:

- PRIME minicomputer support
- Micro-computer support
- FORTAN 77 programming
- Communications and networking
- Database administration - particularly ORACLE
- Technical application support - particularly CAD

Management Systems & Application Development

Post Ref : HTE/24003/T2

Experience should cover:

- 4GLs and relational database development - particularly ORACLE
- Structural design methods - SSADM/LSDM
- Design and development of management systems such as staff resources and project planning in a large multi discipline technical organisation.
- Design and development of technical applications using FORTAN 77

Applicants for either post should be educated to degree standard and have at least 7 years relevant experience.

ANALYST/PROGRAMMER - BRISTOL

Career Grade £8,181 - £13,824 (UNDER REVIEW)

Post Ref: HTE/12102/T2

Your main role will be to participate in the support and development of computer applications and management systems on the Department's PRIME 6350 mainframe and IBM compatible micros.

We are looking for a well qualified person with two years or more experience of developing systems in Oracle, Fortran and C, using structural design techniques. If you have a degree or an equivalent qualification in computing or a related discipline and two years relevant experience, the starting salary within the career grade is likely to be a minimum of £11,667.

The department has a wide ranging programme of computer development work.

FOR ALL POSTS:

You will be working in an attractive part of the country as well as enjoying the following employment benefits:

- Wide ranging experience of computer services in a progressive major technical Department
- Generous relocation expenses available in appropriate circumstances
- Mortgage assistance where appropriate
- Flexible working hours
- Generous holiday entitlement
- Excellent pension scheme
- Maternity/Paternity provisions
- Interview expenses including payment of fees for Child Minding and/or the care of dependent relatives

Application by form only, available with further details from the Director of Personnel Services, PO Box 270, Avon House, The Haymarket, Bristol, BS99 7HE, or telephone Bristol 298365 (Ansafone on this number after office hours).

Please quote reference numbers when asking for forms which must be returned by 2nd February 1990.

All full-time posts open to jobshare applications (unless otherwise stated).

The Authority has a positive equal opportunities policy and welcomes applications from all sections of the Community, particularly those presently under-represented in this work area e.g. women, black and other ethnic minorities and people with disabilities (Sex Discrimination Act 1975 Section 48(1) (B) and Race Relations Act 1976 Section 38(1) (B) refers).

Avon as an Equal Opportunities employer
considers applicants on their
merit for the post, regardless of
sex, race, disability or sexual
orientation.

Avon
COUNTY COUNCIL

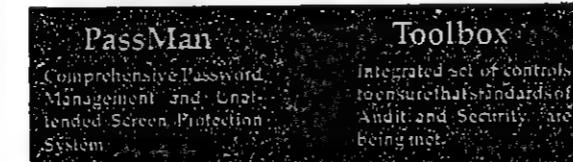
Rapport

Integrated Solutions for Security and Control

SOFTWARE - to help you achieve a totally secure yet flexible user environment

CONSULTANCY - to make sure your security objectives are successful

IBM AS/400 and SYSTEM/38



We work closely with computer auditors and data processing managers to help them save time and increase efficiency.

When the security of your business is at stake, why go for piecemeal solutions?

Ring us on 01-608 5114 or 01-608 5285 to see if we can help you.

RAPPORT SOFTWARE LIMITED
38 Chancery Lane, London EC1R 5AU.

SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH YORKSHIRE BANK

This is an exciting time of change in the whole banking industry and nowhere is this true than at Yorkshire Bank. We have expanded consistently over many years, not only opening new branches over an ever wider area of the country, but also increasing the range of services which we offer to both business and private customers, covering the whole spectrum of Financial Services.

The increase in activity in systems development has caused these appointments and they form part of this expansion. We offer opportunities to develop your skills on a range of innovative projects, whilst at the same time receiving the advantageous package of benefits which the Bank offers, together with excellent career opportunities.

The hardware is based around, VS30 UNISYS mainframes. A range of equipment is linked to them, significantly Unisys terminals at Head Office, Philips and Olivetti terminals in branches and NCR AIMS. Software is mainly COBOL based.

These opportunities are based in Leeds, where we are shortly moving to new offices.

QUALITY ASSURANCE ANALYSTS

up to £18,000

Joining our Systems support team, which offers a comprehensive project review and consultancy service. The work additionally involves agreeing and monitoring project quality plans, producing project status reports and conducting post implementation reviews.

We shall be looking for strong communication skills both verbal and written, supporting written standards and procedures.

ANALYST/PROGRAMMERS

up to £16,000

Applicants must have 3 - 5 years COBOL experience with knowledge of accounting systems, UNISYS experience would be advantageous.

The work will chiefly involve programme specification creation and we shall be looking for report writing skills.

Database

ANALYST PROGRAMMERS

up to £14,000

up to £12,500

These positions would suit Analyst/Programmers with 3 - 5 years experience on UNISYS V systems in general. DMS II, LINC and/or Datacomms experience would be of particular interest.

In each case, we offer a very full range of benefits, including annual bonus and profit share. We also provide preferential mortgage and loan facilities after a qualifying period and full sports and social facilities.

If you wish to know more about the posts contact Glyn Wainwright or Jim Faint on Leeds (0532) 692121.

To apply please write with a full C.V. to Neil Sternbach, Manager - Personnel Selection,



Yorkshire Bank



20 Merrion Way, Leeds LS2 8NZ.

We are an equal opportunity employer

COMPUTING

The new breed in office systems

A new breed of personal computer application looks set to have an impact on the way people do business with one another over the next few years.

Just as word-processing software changed the way many people write, and spreadsheets forced a rethink on financial plans, so "officeware" or "groupware" may well change the way we run our offices.

Officeware is software designed to benefit the running of an office. It consists of a number of functions grouped together: electronic mail, an electronic office diary (into which everyone in the office enters their appointments, and to which everyone can gain access via any computer on the network) and a scheduler - so that people within an office or workgroup can see when given projects must be completed, what stages their colleagues have reached, and when people are going on holiday.

Used properly, officeware can make a big difference to the way a company or department operates. When booking office meetings, secretaries no longer have to check five people's diaries. They need only check the computer diaries, book the meeting and send electronic mail messages notifying people of the time.

Electronic mail also offers more attention-getting power than an ordinary memo. On many "e-mail" systems, a message will flash up on screen showing when a message has been received by a worker's computer, who has sent it and what it is about. A number of office e-mail

systems also let the message sender know who has read their messages and when.

But the software only works if it gains quick, widespread acceptance throughout a company. And the only way that will happen is if it is easy to use and accessible through all the computers in an office - even when they come from different manufacturers.

That is the main reason officeware is big news among computer companies such as Apple, Hewlett-Packard, Microsoft, Word Perfect and IBM, all trying to take a share of the market.

Macintosh tried pioneering the idea less than successfully a few years back; now it has developed some skilful electronic mail and minicomputer connectivity software.

Hewlett-Packard recently announced a New Wave Office integrated office system, using a picture-based command system to run officeware across a number of different computers and systems.

Microsoft is relying on its OS/2 LAN Manager networking software and recently improved Microsoft Mail system to be at the forefront of its officeware effort.

The latter is an electronic mail system which operates on IBM-compatibles and Apple Macintosh and allows e-mail to be sent between the two systems.

Word Perfect also has its Office electronic mail system working across a number of different computer systems.

Geoff Wheelwright

Laser for clay shoots

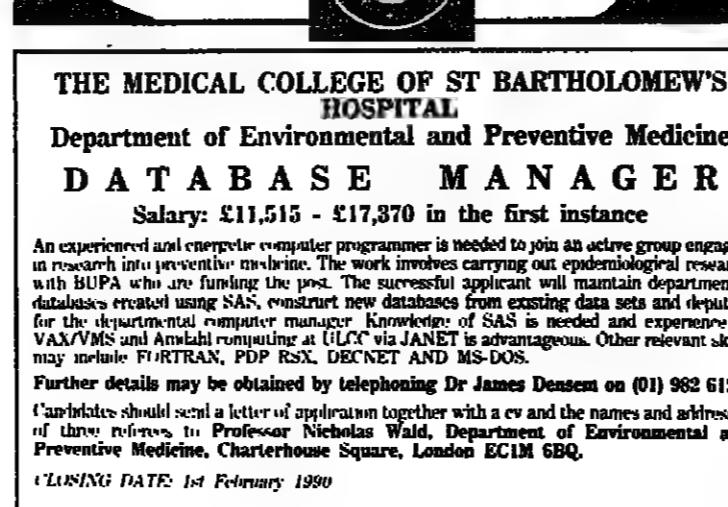
trodden, meaning that clay pigeon shooting can be enjoyed in the city as well as the country.

The system, which took five years and £500,000 to develop, is the brainchild of the family firm Lasersports, based in the New Forest, Hampshire.

Cathy Nicholson-Pike, who runs Lasersports, says: "We do not claim to be replacing traditional clay pigeon shooting - although gamekeepers who have had a go thoroughly enjoyed it.

"What we are doing is creating a new leisure activity for a huge market."

Nick Nuttall



احفظ من الاصد

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Riding the wind

The Government seems reluctant to fund small generators that harness nature's power, Nick Nuttall writes

Twenty-five years ago, before the public became conversant with the greenhouse effect, acid rains and ozone holes, Alan Cooklin bought his first wind generator for 20 shillings, complete with a 6ft mahogany propeller.

"I was a medical student renting a house for about £28 a year," recalls the former Edinburgh University student, now a psychiatrist at a London hospital. "There was no electricity, gas or anything, and I saw an old Lucas Freelite from the 1930s. The laird delivered it to me for £1."

Yet what may have started out as a whim has turned into a consuming interest spanning two and a half decades. Next to his holiday house, 20 miles north of Berwick-on-Tweed off the Edinburgh road, stands a proud park of wind turbines and solar cells. It includes the Freelite and a 50 and a 250 watt generator made by Marlec of Corby, Britain's biggest maker of small-scale wind systems.

There is enough energy in the park to power lights, television sets, a computer, hi-fi system, electric drill and a coffee grinder. From the top of a nearby hill, Cooklin can look seven miles across to Torness and its nuclear power station. "Not an ounce of my power comes from there."

The Government has given millions to the research and development of large-scale wind turbines. These units, such as the Central Electricity Generating Board's newly erected one-gigawatt generator at Richborough, Kent, are designed for the national grid. Yet small-scale generators have received little public funding.

Export potential of either small-scale wind or combined wind and solar powered generators is vast, claims Charles Peterson, a telecommunications engineer who became interested in alternative power when working in Libya

with its telephone company. He believes that small-scale units offer a cheap and reliable power source where there is a shortage of fuel, parts and skilled repairmen.

They could also help bring Information Technology to the developing world, giving villagers trouble-free power to take educational, commercial and other data from satellites and on to personal computers. They can also power two-way telephone communications and television.

"Probably millions of places throughout the world have no mains power, such as villages in Pakistan, India, Africa and the Australian outback," says Peterson, who is also a member of the British Wind Energy Association's (BWEA) Small Systems Group and owner of Windsun Systems of Dunbar.

John Fawkes, who founded Marlec 11 years ago and won the Queen's Award for Industry last year, says: "It seems that every week new applications emerge. We started with small, 50W machines for electric fencing on remote farms." On fish farms in Scotland and Ireland, small wind turbines are now powering electric offshore feeders and seal-scarers to ward predators away from the cages.

British Telecom is interested in units for repeater stations, and British Rail is testing wind generators on high tension wires near Loughborough to drive devices measuring the level of wear on train pantographs. And lighthouse administrators, including Trinity House, are either using or considering small-scale generators to drive low-powered beacons.

Yet, despite this apparent potential, the small-scale wind energy industry in Britain remains a cottage industry compared with the government and industry funds for large kilo, mega and gigawatt machines. Fawkes does not resent the success of companies such as GEC, British Aerospace



Nature's way: small wind generators are a cheap and reliable power source in remote areas such as the fish farms of Scotland and Ireland, running electric feeders and seal-scarers

and Taylor Woodrow to the public purse, but believes small-scale units have a vital role to play in the industry and in the protection of the environment. His company has just designed a 1kW wind turbine that, it is hoped, will be commercially available soon.

But he needs help to develop machines to bridge the gap between national grid and small-scale machines. "If we approach the National Wind Turbine Centre in East Kilbride, Scotland, which is part of the National Engineering Laboratory, they start talking of thousands of pounds to do any work," Fawkes says.

It has left British manufacturers, such as Marlec, LV Motors of Letchworth in Hertfordshire and Lumic of Poole in Dorset to their disadvantage against overseas rivals.

"We are just being left on our own. This is not the way to get an industry going. Large companies have the researchers and can get £4 million or £5 million to develop it."

European countries, including West Germany, Denmark and

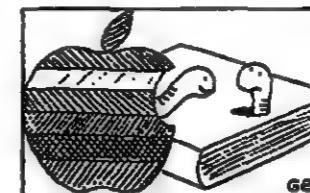
The Netherlands, have grants available for the installation of small-scale systems.

BWEA's small systems committee has secured a meeting next month with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) in a bid to gain recognition for the role of small-scale generators. Fawkes says: "We are asking for help to develop better batteries, systems, aerofols and methods of manufacturing blades." However, he is unsure whether help will be forthcoming, despite a British market potential running in the hundreds of thousands of pounds and overseas in millions for the £200 to £1,000 machines. "We may be caught between two stools — the Department of Energy, which finds the big boys, and the DTI," Fawkes says.

Yet it appears that the Government is at last taking small-scale wind and solar seriously. A survey has just been completed into the technology's potential, details of which will be discussed at next month's meeting. But the findings are being kept confidential amid concern that valuable commercially-sensitive information may fall into overseas competitors' hands.

JOBSITE

Catch the desktop boom



gen

An experienced writer would expect to earn about £16,000, but this can go to the mid-twenties for a documentation manager. There is also the chance to contract on a daily basis, and here rates can be from £100 to £200 per day, more akin to that paid to other development staff.

Like most other IT positions, it is difficult to get the first job, as most of the specialist documentation firms prefer graduates with a number of years' experience. Businesses with in-house publishing departments are more flexible. One option is to attend a technical writing course and gain a qualification through an organization such as the Institute of Scientific and Technical Communicators.

Leslie Tilley

NEW TECHNOLOGY

Keen to

- enhance your C.V.?
- join one of Europe's largest I.T. projects?

Information Technology Services Directorate is taking Social Security into the 1990s and beyond.

To help us get there we are seeking high calibre recruits to join our H.Q. at Lytham St. Annes (on the Fylde coast in Lancashire) and some at our offices in the Newcastle Upon Tyne area.

Exciting opportunities exist in:

the challenge

PLANNING (structures techniques supported by PC and mainframe packages)

ANALYSIS/DESIGN (SSADM, Data Dictionary)

PROGRAMMING (Jackson-based SDM, Departmental LPSE)

TECHNICAL SECURITY

SYSTEM TESTING

QUALITY ASSURANCE

SERVICE DELIVERY (operations, technical support, networks)

We are looking for:

PROFESSIONALS

1 year's experience

We can offer you:

• a contract for up to 3 yrs (renewable)

• attractive terminal bonus (up to 40%)

• up to £13994 depending on experience

• possibility of a permanent post

• £9077 to £13994 depending on age

the people

TRAINEES

5 GCE/GCSEs (incl Eng Lang.)

2 A levels

17 years 6 months to 50 years of age

We can offer you:

• high quality training

• progression on merit

the details

Send the coupon below to ITSD-PMG, Room 167H, DSS, Benton Park Rd., Newcastle upon Tyne, NE98 1YX.

Alternatively ring 091-22-57477 (24 hours) quoting ref PMG/1TP for Short Service Contracts and PMG/T for Trainee Posts.

Closing date for applications is 8.2.90.

ITSD is an equal opportunity employer

Name...
Address...

itsd

YOUNG SYSTEMS AND OPERATIONAL ACCOUNTANT

A chance to use all your skills and gain first class experience

c£26,500

Corby

A subsidiary of a Swiss based multi-national leads the industry in providing conveyor and dynamic storage systems. Plans are in hand to double the business within four years and past achievements suggest that this is a realistic aim. To meet this challenge, as part of their integrated plans for the future the company is investing in a Unisys 5000 Computer, with a Unix operating system and Oracle Software. We are now looking for a young, computer literate, business manager, to work with both the UK and the German management teams, to ensure that maximum benefits accrue from this new installation, and that both the specific needs of the UK company and the overall group requirements are satisfied. Ideal candidates, late twenties-early thirties, will be graduates (or at least of degree intellect), professionally qualified in either Accounting or Business Management, with a working knowledge of both personal and mini computers. An engineering, manufacturing background, supported by practical knowledge of production management and stock control, essential. An understanding of programming is mandatory, and familiarity with Oracle would be a great benefit. However, the main requirements are an understanding of business problems and the ability both to devise and commission computer based solutions and to write program code. Although the working language is English, fluency in another major European language would be beneficial. Please send full career details, quoting reference WE 0017, to Brian Walters, Ward Executive Limited, Academy House, 26-28 Sackville Street, London W1X 2QL. Tel: 01-439 4581.

WARD EXECUTIVE

LIMITED

Executive Search & Selection

AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD RESEARCH COUNCIL (AFRC)

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING RESEARCH

£36,818 - £41,296

Applications are invited for the post of Director of Engineering Research, to succeed Professor John Matthews CBE, who retires in July 1990.

The person appointed will be directly responsible to the Secretary to the AFRC for the management of the AFRC Institute of Engineering Research, Wrest Park, Silsoe, near Bedford, where the post is located.

The Director will be expected to make a major contribution to the development of an engineering research strategy, in support of research at AFRC Institutes, in Higher Education Institutions, in private industry and through international research collaboration, in the European Community and in the Third World. The postholder will be a member of the AFRC Management Board. Candidates should be professionally

qualified in engineering and must have a distinguished record of innovative research. Experience in the management of research at a senior level and a knowledge of agricultural engineering and food process technology are prime requirements.

Benefits include a non-contributory pension, and the successful candidate may qualify for assistance with removal expenses.

The AFRC is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from Mr J M Y Dickens, Chief Personnel Officer, Agricultural and Food Research Council, Central Office, Wiltshire Court, Farmsby Street, Swindon SN1 5AT (0793 514242 ext. 315). The closing date for applications is 31 January 1990.



INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

IMG is Mark McCormack's international sports management company and television production group.

TRAINER/SOFTWARE SUPPORT

We are looking for someone with a PC training background. Knowledge of accounting and/or networking systems is also desirable as are European languages. You will be working with a team of five people supporting three offices in London and eight offices in Europe. Excellent skills and sound education essential.

Please apply in writing enclosing your C.V. to: Sarah Wooldridge, IMG, Pier House, Strand on the Green, Chiswick, London W4 3NN.

Continued on next page

BANKING AND ACCOUNTANCY

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER 28K + CAR NEG

A unique opportunity has arisen for a qualified accountant to join our prestigious client. The financial controller will report directly to the director and be responsible for all aspects of the company's financial affairs. In addition, the candidate will be expected to manage the development of the company's existing computer systems. To qualify you must have a degree in accountancy and ideally be computer literate. Knowledge of the photographic industry would be an advantage but not essential. For more details please call Brigitte Davison-Jones on 01-439-1827.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

GRADUATES: IF YOURS A WINNING PERSONALITY?

West end based consultancy seeks 2 ambitious individuals with the desire and determination to 'win through'. You will be trained to executive positions whilst working in an exciting, varied and stimulating environment, where early management opportunities and high rewards are attainable within your first year. In return we are looking for drive and excellent communication skills.

TELEPHONE: 01 - 930 5353

GREEK ISLANDS REPRESENTATIVES

Specialist Tour Operator requires representatives from April until October. Age 22-40. Applicants should be smart, intelligent, hard working and self-motivated. Common sense, a sense of humour and tolerance are essential. Knowledge of a European language, especially Greek, would be an advantage.

Phone Jane Proctor

LASKARINA HOLIDAYS

0828 824681

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

also appear in Section 3 of today's paper

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

CRISPIN RODWELL



All sewn up: Dr Brendan Hinds and Dr James McCartney of Queen's University, Belfast, have invented a system for making accurate garment patterns using computer graphics

Cut down to size — by computer

Paper patterns used in the clothing industry will soon be produced by computer — bringing automation to the only sector of garment-making still dependent on manual skills.

Software is being developed which can, within minutes, convert designers' sketches into accurate patterns, exactly specified on a computer screen. Computer graphics portray exact screen photographs of the finished garment, appropriately coloured, long before the material is cut.

The advance promises greater efficiency and higher profits for industry. Large stores will be able to assess a design from a computer

representation, reducing the cost of samples. Quicker responses to changes in fashion will be feasible. The patterns can also conform exactly to the designer's plans.

Complex mathematics, which make it possible for information about body depth to be introduced into a designer's two-dimensional sketch, form the basis of the breakthrough. Dr James McCartney and Dr Brendan Hinds, engineers at Queen's University, Belfast, who are funded by the Science and Engineering Research Council, have

found a way to compile a three-dimensional database for garment design from an array of co-ordinated points, obtained by "digitizing" the surface of a trade mannequin. The design, based on this data, is then conveyed to a computer.

Until now, new designs have been achieved by adapting, with scissors and adhesive tape, standard cardboard cut-outs created

by craftsmen, many years before, for each garment type. These 2D sample patterns frequently need re-working to reflect accurately the designer's plan, or achieve the geometric precision needed for cutting in batches.

This highly-skilled operation can now be done on a graphics work-station. Here, the surface description derived from the trade mannequin is represented on screen as a dummy, capable of being scaled to different sizes and proportions. Each design can be applied to a range of sizes.

The designer and computer work together to design the 3D garment panels using the dummy, measuring how far off the body surface the garment should be. A

3D cursor, with access to all points on the dummy surface and surrounds, imprints points specified in the design. These form the building blocks of the design and the pattern. The cursor nominates the points the designer has marked, to create the cubic curves which form the panel edge, and then joins the points.

Algorithms (arithmetic computations) have been devised which develop the 3D surface points into 2D patterns, fed from the computer. Slight manual adjustment for type of seam or hang of cloth is still required. Negotiations are in progress to sell the technology to a local garment company.

Carmel McQuaid

SCIENCE REPORT

Can you spare a bite, buddy?

The vampire bats of Latin America are not the most lovable of creatures, with their habit of returning to the same victim night after night to drink blood.

But it is quite a different story from the vampire bat's point of view. In a paper in the February issue of *Scientific American*, Gerald Wilkinson, Professor of Zoology at the University of Maryland, shows that vampire bats live constantly on the brink of disaster, for if two nights pass without a blood meal, a bat will starve to death. The habit of returning to a known victim again and again is one way of reducing the risk of starvation.

But vampire bats have a second, more remarkable insurance policy: they have evolved a "buddy" system, in which individual bats have long-term partners that will regurgitate and share their blood, so that their partner will not starve.

Wilkinson studied his vampire bats in Costa Rica. The same species, *Desmodus rotundus*, is found from Mexico to Chile, roaming the countryside in the pitch dark (nights with too much moonlight are avoided), looking for horses, cattle, and very occasionally humans, to feed upon.

The bats are well-adapted for their work. They use echolocation to navigate in the dark and a refined sense of smell helps them track down their prey. Heat sensors in the bat's nose find the best place to bite, a warm spot where a blood vessel lies just below the victim's skin. An anticoagulant in the bat's saliva then keeps the blood flowing for the 20 to 30 minutes needed to complete a meal.

Each bat must drink between 50 and 100 per cent of its body weight in blood every night. Young bats are at particular risk of starvation. Until they become skilful at biting quickly and painlessly they are often driven away by their prey.

Wilkinson observed the bats' social life in the hollow trees in which they roost. All he needed was a pair of binoculars, a diffuse light source and the forebearance to lie on his back with his head inside the base of a tree. He found that the bats have long, stable relations with one another — one pair of females, for example, roosted together for 12 years. Vampire bats may live for as long as 18 years. He also saw bats regurgitating blood to feed others.

That vampire bats feed blood to their young had been discovered by Uwe Schmidt, a zoologist who kept a colony of the bats in the turret of the ancient castle of Poppelsdorfer Schloss in Bonn. (The bats were not allowed to roam the countryside in search of prey, but were fed on blood from the local slaughterhouse.)

But there is a big difference between feeding one's own offspring, which all mammals do, to feeding unrelated adults, which is almost unknown.

Wilkinson showed that bats are very choosy about the partners with which they share blood meals. Bats with a long history of co-habitation feed one another quite often. But blood is given most readily for one companion that frequently donates blood in return.

The buddy system really is a life-saver: Wilkinson's studies show that on average 30 per cent of young bats and 7 per cent of experienced bats fail to find a victim on any one night. From those figures a computer simulation predicts that, in the course of a single year, 32 per cent of bats would go hungry on two consecutive nights and die. But the buddy system cuts this potential death rate to only 24 per cent.

Alun Anderson
Nature/Times News Service 1990

NEW TECHNOLOGY

Continued From Previous Page

Interested in Technology but like working with people?

Radiography may hold the answer

You can train to be a Diagnostic Radiographer on our three year course leading to the Diploma of the College of Radiographers.

If you have a good general education, educated to 'A' level standard, or can offer a wealth of 'life experience', contact us now for more information regarding this rapidly expanding career.

Westminster Hospital School of Radiography
Westminster Hospital, London SW1P 2PF
or phone: 01 746 8682

I.T. REQUIREMENTS

PERMANENT

WE HAVE BEEN APPROACHED BY 4 LARGE INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES TO HELP THEM RECRUIT PERMANENT STAFF. IN BRIEF THE REQUIREMENTS ARE:

- All levels, any skills
- RPG or COBOL
- ANALYST PROGRAMMERS
- PROJECT MANAGERS
- BUSINESS ANALYSTS
- INSURANCE OR BUILDING SOCIETY

CONTRACTS

- ANALYST/PROGRAMMER — QUICKBUILD
- LINC
- ANALYST - STRUCTURED DESIGN
- PASCAL, STRUCTURED DESIGN
- NATURAL, ADABAS

SHOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT THESE REQUIREMENTS THEN PLEASE CONTACT EITHER LIZ IFFTNER OR LESLEY BOWLES

IFFTNER INTERNATIONAL
13 GREAT COLMAN STREET, IPSWICH IP4 2AA
TELEPHONE: 0473 217379/233090. FAX NO: 0473 231269
LICENCE NO SET3100

MANAGEMENT AND COMPUTER TRAINING

'A' Levels or Degree

Ready for a new lease on life?



If you are looking for a new direction in your life or just starting to think about your future we have the perfect opportunity for you. In the Civil Service you'll find a variety of career options. And the level of responsibility and training is hard to match.

The department you decide to join as an Executive Officer will make the best use of your abilities and experience. We know our people are our most important assets; today's Executive Officers are tomorrow's senior managers. Promotion prospects are good and are based on merit.

You must have at least 5 GCE/GCSEs (including English Language and 2 at 'A' level or equivalent); nearly half of our new entrants are graduates. There are ideal opportunities for those returning to work after a career break. Starting salaries are up to £13,865 (in London) and up to £11,630 (elsewhere). Promotion could take you to the higher management levels and salaries of £29,000 and beyond.

For further details and an application form please send the completed coupon below to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: E/638/131

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

Name: _____

Address: _____

Ref: E/638/131

PROGRAM

الله من الأصل

BAKST INTERNATIONAL

9 THE PORTLAND BUSINESS CENTRE,
MANOR HOUSE LANE,
DATCHET, SLOUGH SL3 9EG,
ENGLAND

Tel. No. (0753) 581910

FAX No. (0753) 580457

Bakst International (UK) Ltd. are the UK arm of Bakst International Corporation of Sydney Australia. Bakst provides programming services to clients worldwide. Employees may be assigned to one project for up to 2 years or on completion may then move to a different assignment in either the same country or elsewhere in the world. Our positions therefore appeal to those looking for exciting worldwide career progression.

We are currently looking for personnel in the following countries, and with the requisite skills

UK, Hong Kong and New Zealand.

- * Oracle programmers with 1-3 years experience.
- * Analysts with SSADM/LDSM experience

Hong Kong

- * ADABAS/NATURAL experience on IBM mainframe equipment.
- * UNISYS/EXEC 1100 COBOL experience

UK

- * ICL 4GL and Database experience in AM, QM, Quickbuild, TPMS in a VME environment.
- * IBM AS 400 or System 38 COBOL and 4GL experience.
- * IBM Mainframe COBOL & DB2 environment.

Applicants should write, FAX or phone to A.J. Collins Country Manager.

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Continued on Facing Page

INTERESTED IN EARNING
£17,000 PER ANNUM?

To acquire the above salary you need to have good working knowledge of the French language and have excellent English shorthand speeds. Company prefers property experience but not essential. Excellent benefits and luxurious offices.

Contact Olga Regueiro

01-599 5841

Alfred Marks Rec Cons

16 Lansdowne Row

London W1

(Green Park Tube)

New Year, New Career
SECRETARY / PA

£14,000

required by small dynamic financial consultancy group
Please contact Tim Crank for further details
79 Marylebone Lane London W1M 5GA
01-487 5691 / 01-224 2027

MOVE UP TO
CHELSEA HARBOUR

Our firm of successful architects and designers requires top class team secretaries with excellent skills and organisational abilities to join our lively office. You must be well presented and able to cope under pressure. In return we offer an excellent salary plus bonuses and a generous benefits package. Please telephone Lucy Athbee or Brenda Ward on 01-576 5033 or write with CV to:

John Arnett & Partners (London) Ltd, 2-18 Harbour Yard

Staines, Middlesex TW10 0XD.

EURO BUREAU SEC'S £12-£15,000 aae

"Premier Classe" opportunity to join very friendly, fast-moving, ever changing Euro Environment Agency. Our client needs 2 'cam' "done aware" quality secretaries with a sense of humour to work for 2 Directors. Conversational French is needed for telephone and travel bookings.

Call Sallyanne Brady or Sally Davies on 0254 8427
31 Sloane Street London SW1

We also have vacancies for Euro Secs in The Arts, Property, East South and West. Salaries £12-£18,000

CHASE
RESEARCH
LTD
Salary to £25k
UNIX & 'C'
SOFTWARE
ENGINEERS

to join a team of engineers designing communications products for the 300/400 PC market

Call Jim Meekin
(0286) 2260

Chase Research
Chase House,
Cedarwood,
Chesham Business
Park
Basingstoke RG24
0WD
(5345)

CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

NOTTING HILL GATE
SEC. P.A.
£14,000 AGE 23-
(W/ S/H OR AUDIO)
looking for well groomed
person with good
young established French
Company Full Sec. PA
with good French
Charm, who likes to
delegate. Background at
least 3 years business
experience, experience in
a large office at A level.
Computer literate.
non-smoker. Very good
sense of humour.
Please Call Mr Ted Sherry
796 3056 or Fax details on
600 1149.
R. W. & P. Staff Rec.

Institute involved in EC
issues, based in West
London, looking for intelligent,
responsible individuals

NUMERATE
ADMINISTRATOR/
SECRETARY,
as part of small, happy team.
Must be flexible, enthusiastic
with good telephone manner,
with ability to work under
pressure. Possibility of some
EC travel - some knowledge
of French an asset.
Please telephone 579 4888
between 9am and 5pm.

PRESTIGIOUS
ADVERTISING CO

CE15,000

Seek Sec'yrie age 25-30
excellent Sec'yrie with WP

SH1 an advantage.

Call Helen on 01-599 1282

Kingsgate Park Centre

SECRETARY/
ASSISTANT

required by Fashion Agents
as well as packing experts
Smart friendly office. Salary
£12,000. Hours 9.5 with 4
weeks holiday.

Please telephone
01-499 5777.

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Continued From Facing Page

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/
SENIOR SECRETARY -
EDUCATIONSALARY PACKAGE UP TO
£13,530 PA

The Corporation's Education Department has been set up to undertake its duties as a local education authority. The recently appointed City Education Officer requires as soon as possible a person who can provide a high level of administrative and secretarial support.

It is essential that you have: good secretarial or PA experience; accurate typing speeds at 60 wpm (incl. Audio); word processing skills and the ability to provide appropriate back-up systems for a busy Chief Officer. Also available are:

* an interest free season ticket loan.

* use of staff restaurant and other facilities within Guildhall.

* relocation scheme.

Further details and an application form can be obtained from the:

City Education Officer
City of London Education Department
Clement House
14-18 Gresham Street
London EC2P 2EJ
Tel: 01-360 1755

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

CITY OF LONDON
Education Department

ENGLISH & OVERSEAS
PROPERTIES plc

The Company is a well established property developer based in Victoria, with a full listing on the Stock Exchange. We are involved in a wide range of development activity throughout the country.

CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY
£20,000 PACKAGE

The Chairman requires a senior secretary with the necessary skills to manage the complete running of his office. You should have at least 2 years experience working at Director level and be confident in dealing with individuals at the highest levels. You will be required to completely organise the Chairman's very busy diary, arrange communications and social functions, be involved in the administration of the office, recruitment of secretarial staff, everything in fact to assist the Chairman in the efficient running of the Company.

The position will be operating an Apple Macintosh computer on which full training is given. Non-smoker please. The salary package will reflect your qualifications and experience and include private health cover, bonus and share option scheme and season ticket loan.

Please apply to:

Julie Padden
English & Overseas
Properties plc
29 Buckingham Gate
London SW1 6NF
Tel: 01-829 9929
(Strictly No Agencies)

PERSONNEL ASST/SEC
up to £14,000

Ref: 516

Excellent career position awaits the right organised and highly skilled Secretary. Major telecommunications Company require excellent communicator to work for Personnel Director based in E14. Using Wordperfect, WP & Your proven organisational prospects in this highly progressive Company. 25 days holiday, Pension Scheme, Private Health & S.T.L. are just some of the benefits!

PROJECT S/H SECRETARY X 2

up to £14,500

Ref: 449/453

International Construction Management Co. based in E14 urgently require two experienced highly motivated S/H Secs (100 wpm). Working within the Project Management Division, dealing with a diary, appointments, etc and clients at a high level. Immediate start offered. Diary, Adminstration work and real involvement in the Company growth. Bonus, Healthcare and Pension scheme all included!

Phone now on 702 1591 and speak to Vince for immediate interview with us



9 FENCHURCH PLACE,
LONDON, EC3M 4AJ 01-702 1591

A MEMBER OF BALTIC PLC

NEWS INTERNATIONAL
NEWSPAPERS LIMITED
SECRETARY TO
INSURANCE
MANAGER

AGED 23 PLUS

SALARY: £13,975

Excellent opportunity for a first class shorthand secretary (100 wpm) together with Wordstar 2000 release 5.0 to provide full secretarial and administrative support to the Insurance Manager. You should possess good interpersonal skills, together with the ability to work under pressure.

In return an excellent benefits package is offered which includes six weeks holiday and BUPA.

Apply in writing only enclosing a comprehensive CV together with daytime telephone number to:

Brenda Hemmings,
Recruitment Manager,
News International Limited,
PO Box 481, Virginia Street,
London E1 9BD

A BRIGHT PERSONALITY -
Youth and lots of energy are needed as secretary in fast growing leading Electronics & Hi-Fi Company.
Good W.P. speaking voice and appearance essential.
Salary c£10,000
Ring Sarah Elliott
01-638 7953

SECRETARY/PA

Experienced person to run small architects' office near Holland Park. WP/audio/office management/sense of humour. Age immaterial. Salary range £11,250 - £12,750.

01 229 9375.

PA/SECRETARY

In MD of small PR company. Covent Garden. Excellent S.H. skills. Essential plus administration ability. Newly formed company with terrific potential. Want to be part of a team. Salary c£13,000

Write with CV to: Blinderunner PR Ltd
Garden Studios
115 Bafferton Street
WC1N 9BP

GRAFTER REQUIRED
WITH WELL-DEVELOPED
SENSE OF HUMOUR

EC3

The busy personnel department of one of London's leading Lloyds insurance brokers seeks a hard-working, flexible secretary to provide a secretarial service to the female Personnel Manager and Personnel Officer.

Coping with a large volume of daily correspondence, the duties include some 70% word-processed copy typing, answering the telephone and handling general queries, maintaining diaries, greeting and testing candidates, filing, record keeping and photocopying, as well as other office duties. The environment is hectic and sometimes stressful so patience, a sense of humour and stamina are vital, as are fast, accurate word-processing, an assured telephone manner and the ability to deal tactfully and confidently with all levels of staff. Although involvement is assured, this is not a "career" position.

Applicants must be aged 22+, non-smokers, with O or A level standard of education and at least 4 years secretarial experience. In return the company offers a competitive salary plus 12% and subsidised restaurant, non-contributory pension scheme and interest free season ticket loan.

For further details and an application form can be obtained from the:

City Education Officer
City of London Education Department
Clement House
14-18 Gresham Street
London EC2P 2EJ
Tel: 01-360 1755

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an open advertisement and is not subject to the ring fence procedure.

and should be returned no later than Friday, 2nd February 1990.

This is an

New image for coal and steel county



Rebuilding: Les Henson, with Durham Cathedral as a backdrop, looks ahead to more growth



DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

NEW SKILLS FOR OLD

**THERE IS NO QUESTION,
'TRAINING' IS THE GENIE
FOR THE 1990's AND THERE
IS NO DENYING THE LINKS BETWEEN
SKILLS AND SUCCESS —
FOR MODERN INDUSTRY
FOR THE SINGLE EUROPEAN MARKET.**

The Local Education Department is part of a network of agencies dedicated to successful industrial development in the County. The LEA, with its six colleges of further and higher education, is the main conduit for the supply of competent and qualified employees. It has a particular role in helping employers to avoid difficulties in recruiting essential skills and in providing assistance with staff development and training programmes.

Partnership arrangements

The Director of Education welcomes suggestions for partnership arrangements with any employer. He will be delighted to respond promptly to any enquiries about specially tailored recruitment and training packages.

DURHAM COUNTY LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

- * Four colleges of further education
- * College of further and higher education
- * College of Agriculture and Horticulture
- * Over 30,000 students per annum
- * COURSES IN NEW TECHNOLOGIES
- * MANAGEMENT & SUPERVISION
- * LANGUAGES FOR THE SINGLE EUROPEAN MARKET
- * MULTI-SKILLING AND SKILL BROADENING

Keith Grimshaw, Director of Education,
Local Education Authority, County Hall,
Aykley Heads, Durham, DH1 5UJ. Tel. 091 3864411

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

www.durham.gov.uk

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

North Sea

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

GUINNESS

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR

10 miles

CO. DURHAM CLEVELAND

Darlington 0 10 miles

N. YORKSHIRE

10 miles

TYNE & WEAR



Reclaimed: David Newbiggin, the environment director, surveys what was once a derelict site

Tourism revives a flagging economy

Visitors flock to the county once shunned for being dull and dirty

Only a decade ago, the suggestion that the county of Durham had the potential to be a popular tourist attraction would have been greeted with incredulity and more than a little laughter, both within and without its boundaries.

The accepted image then was of a dull and dowd region dominated by the coal and steel industries and their environmentally offensive waste products: flat caps and whippets, dirt, grime and cultural horizons that lifted no higher than that stage of the local working men's club.

Today that image – it was never the real truth, of course – is a thing of the past, and tourism is making an increasingly important contribution to the county's economic recovery.

More than a million people a year now visit the county, spending between £30 million and £40 million. This has created 4,000 jobs and supports another 11,000.

Not surprisingly, Durham County Council intends to keep the ball rolling by injecting £75 million into tourism and creating a further 2,000 jobs. Development projects include a new visitor centre in Durham city, an alpine leisure park in Wear Valley, new hotels and improvements to facilities.

The area's best-known landmark is the magnificent Durham Cathedral and its neighbouring castle – now a World

This emphasizes 800 years of rule by the Prince Bishops of the area.

of Durham, powerful men who controlled the frontier land between England and Scotland like kings.

The two other themes are the countryside and the county's industrial and social aspects.

The success of tourism in the county is due to the foresight of its county council.

During the past three decades enormous areas of unsightly and derelict land – left over from the county's industrial history – have been reclaimed.

The council started its campaign of environmental improvements in 1984 by appointing a forester to plant trees on small pit-waste heaps.

At the time there was no government money for such work but when grants were introduced in 1986 the council stepped up its programme.

Today, 36 years after the initiative began it has achieved remarkable results. More than 700 improvement schemes have since been carried out and 10,000 acres of land reclaimed, providing 46 miles of railway walks, nine picnic areas, five nature reserves, new golf courses and small industrial sites, playing fields and housing estates.

The marketing of the new green image of County Durham will continue next year at the National Garden Festival, which is being held on the doorstep, at Gateshead, Tyne & Wear.

The marketing of the new green image of County Durham will continue next year at the National Garden Festival, which is being held on the doorstep, at Gateshead, Tyne & Wear.

The university is a well-established partner with industry in the north-east, involved in projects that com-



University of Durham

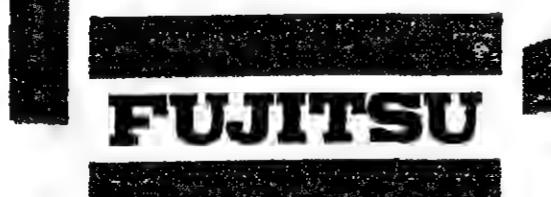
- Research opportunities in Chemistry, Engineering, new materials and other fields
- High technology testing and analysis
- Expanding Business School
- Training and up-dating seminars and courses
- Excellent value conference and catering services

For further details contact:

Keith Scroft, Information Officer,
University of Durham,
Old Shire Hall,
Durham, DH1 3HP.

Tel: (091) 374 2946 Fax: (091) 374 3740

When FUJITSU wanted green fields, they chose Sedgefield's



Japan's largest domestic computer manufacturer, Fujitsu, has just chosen Sedgefield District for its first European semi-conductor manufacturing plant.

The new £400 million facility represents one of the UK's largest inward investments and will eventually employ 1,500 people. Sedgefield have proved once again that our greenfield sites, excellent communications, skilled workforce and quality of life are second to none.

Contact Janet Johnson on (0388) 811211 for a list of sites available.

Sedgefield DISTRICT

Green Lane, Spennymoor, Co Durham DL16 6JQ

Fired Up for the Future

Kohlangaz: a Europe's leading fuel effect fire manufacturer.

Known as the "innovators of the industry". Aohlangaz consistently produce the world's most technologically advanced living flame gas fires.

Hovane built a reputation on quality products, service and fires with a stunning visual appearance. Kohlangaz takes pride in being No. 1.

One of Kohlangaz's latest range of fires, Konzina, can be installed in almost any type of domestic chimney, fire, opening opportunities for homes that previously could not have the benefit of a coal effect gas fire.

KOHLANGAZ
COAL EFFECT FIRE MANUFACTURERS

Kohlangaz, Yarm Road Industrial Estate, Darlington, Co. Durham DL1 4JL
Telephone: 01234 455845 Fax: 01234 55410

Enterprise works in the Wear Valley

DEVELOPMENT AREA STATUS STRONG LOCAL SUPPORT



TELEPHONE:
0388 450505
FAX: 0388 601516

A Company on the Journey to Excellence

South Wales and the North East have a lot in common: skilled workforce, similar coal and metalworking heritage, and two very strong and distinct cultures.

The enthusiastic support of the Northern and County Durham Development Companies and the Shildon Development Agency has made us certain that we were right to choose Shildon as the site for our new factory.

We've been supplying heat exchange systems to the motor industry for as long as there has been a motor industry. Today our customers include Rover, Nissan, General Motors at Vauxhall and Opel, Isuzu-Bedford and J.C.B.

A spectacular level of growth has been sustained by commitment to quality in all areas. And as part of the Calsonic Corporation of Japan, we have a vast reservoir of technical expertise and financial muscle to call on.

Lianelli Heater Systems

Shildon Co. Durham

Lianelli Heater Systems
A division of Calsonic International U.K. Limited

Another industrial revolution

The return of the Japanese is a kind of homecoming

The county of Durham was at the forefront of the Industrial Revolution, establishing the world's first steam passenger railway, the Stockton and Darlington in 1825, and developing huge coalfields, iron and steel plants and shipbuilding yards.

During the past three decades, however, there has been a dramatic change. The county no longer produces steel or railway engines and the number of pits has dwindled from 150 to a mere handful.

It seems appropriate that the county should also be the birthplace of a second industrial revolution that has engulfed north-east England.

In March 1974, the Japanese ball-bearing manufacturer,

NSK, announced it was to build a plant at Peterlee after considering 18 sites throughout the north-east, Scotland and Wales. It was the first wave of a flood of investment from the Far East that was to have a great impact on economic and employment opportunities in a region then labouring under severe depression.

Today, more than 20 Japanese companies are based in the north-east, including Britain's largest concentration of mechanical engineering investment, and, in the case of the car-maker Nissan, just across the county border at Washington, the single largest manufacturing investment by a Japanese company in Europe. It is hoped to double that number during the next three years.

In her book, *Japan and the North East of England*, Marie Conte-Helm, head of Japanese Studies at Sunderland Polytechnic, writes:

"As NSK Bearings (Europe) prepared to start production at Peterlee in the mid-1970s, a new day was dawning and a

new phase in the industrial development of the region began. Despite the initial controversy over the establishment of NSK in the north-east, the recruitment of the first British workers and contact with the local community started to turn the tide and focus attention on the cultural differences and management style which characterized the Japanese way of work."

Among the Japanese concerns now in County Durham are SMK, which makes electronic components at Newton Aycliffe, near Darlington; Sanyo, which produces microwave ovens near by; Tokyo Yogyo UK, which makes refractories at Culliton; and Fujitsu, which is to build a £400 million plant, the second biggest Japanese investment after Nissan, to make semi-conductors at Newton Aycliffe, providing 1,500 jobs.

Nissan and Komatsu, manufacturer of earth-moving equipment, are just over the northern

border of the county but are a great source of sub-contracting work within Durham. By 1992, it is estimated that total Japanese investment in the north-east will total more than £1 billion and will have created about 8,000 direct jobs.

Though the relationships between this region and Japan may seem to be comparatively recent, in fact they stretch back more than a century to 1862 when a group of Japanese envoys visited Britain.

Conte-Helm, a former cultural officer at the Japanese embassy in London, says that the original investments by Japanese companies did not take place without some controversy over their effect on indigenous businesses and suspicions of their long-term commitment.

However, she adds, there is a sense of coming full circle in the relationships now established: in the late 19th century, the north-east aided Japan's progress towards modernization. And today's Japanese investment is contributing to the revitalization of Britain's north-east region as it climbs out of depression.

Among the Japanese concerns now in County Durham are

SMK, which makes

electronic components at

Newton Aycliffe, near Darlington;

Sanyo, which produces micro-

wave ovens near by; Tokyo

Yogyo UK, which makes

refractories at Culliton;

Fujitsu, which is to build a

£400 million plant, the

second biggest Japanese

investment after Nissan,

to make semi-conduc-

tors at Newton Aycliffe,

providing 1,500 jobs.

Nissan and Komatsu, manu-

facturer of earth-moving equip-

ment, are just over the northern

border of the county but are

a great source of sub-contract-

ing work within Durham.

Though the relationships be-

tween this region and Japan

may seem to be comparatively

recent, in fact they stretch back

more than a century to 1862

when a group of Japanese

envoys visited Britain.

Conte-Helm, a former cul-

tural officer at the Japanese

embassy in London, says that

the original investments by

Japanese companies did not

take place without some con-

cern over their effect on in-

digenous businesses and sus-

picions of their long-term com-

mitment.

However, she adds, there is a

sense of coming full circle in

the relationships now estab-

lished: in the late 19th century,

the north-east aided Japan's

progress towards moderniza-

tion. And today's Japanese

investment is contributing to

the revitalization of Britain's

north-east region as it climbs

out of depression.

From this beginning, con-

tacts developed, resulting in

a centre of excellence in in-

dustry and technology.

And today's Japanese invest-

ment is contributing to the

revitalization of Britain's

north-east region as it climbs

out of depression.

From this beginning, con-

tacts developed, resulting in

a centre of excellence in in-

dustry and technology.

And today's Japanese invest-

ment is contributing to the

revitalization of Britain's

north-east region as it climbs

out of depression.

From this beginning, con-

tacts developed, resulting in

a centre of excellence in in-

dustry and technology.

And today's Japanese invest-

ment is contributing to the

revitalization of Britain's

north-east region as it climbs

out of depression.

From this beginning, con-

<p

Dishing it up in and out of satellite's orbit

As everyone knows, ITV is paying the Football League more than £44 million for its exclusive four-year contract, won in fierce competition with BSB and the BBC. Those two are paying the FA £6 million a year for their joint exclusive deal to cover the FA Cup and England internationals, and BSB also has a separate contract with the Scottish League to show live Scottish League matches.

Recently in the scramble for football, Sky has agreed a £3 million contract with the League for the Zenith Data Systems Trophy and the Leyland Daf Cup. In all, with overseas sales and video rights, English football is at present getting an income of around £21 million a year from television and related sources. And that, of course, does not include the money sponsors and perimeter advertisers pay quite happily when guaranteed television coverage.

As all that suggests, the satellite revolution means wealth for some sports. Football, which is the nation's and the world's most popular sport, is undoubtedly certain to be the main beneficiary. Boxing will be another.

Even football, however, should be aware that television, and I say this as a television man, will exact its price. Competition is pushing up the money available to the sport. But the losers in the competition will not be playing by the cosy rules which Jonathan Martin, the BBC's head of sport, and I used to play by 15 years ago.

For the moment, Sky has bought the Zenith Data Systems Cup. But it seems to me that is not likely to sell many dishes, and indeed one wonders how much the delights of Scottish football will help to sell BSB's dish to English audiences. For the moment, ITV has the Football League; I think football needs to be aware that it is quite

From 1964 until last year, John Bromley was at the heart of ITV sports coverage. He is now the chairman of the independent production company, TSL. In the last of three articles, he looks at the likely effects of the satellite explosion

likely that its rivals might decide the only way to compete is by looking to Europe.

Already there is a link-up between leading European teams and satellite television stations, and I can easily foresee a scenario of a European super league being shown on, and possibly backed by, satellite television.

Probably, it will be done by slimming down the domestic programme to create space for it. That, surely, has to come, anyway — the first division cannot stay in its present format, there has to be more breathing space that it offers at the moment.

But if the game's administrators do not show themselves to be flexible — and it is not the first word which springs to mind when discussing them — and able to encompass a European super league within their own orbit, it could easily happen outside their jurisdiction.

Either way, I do not think that the UEFA prohibition on showing other country's matches live across a national border stands a chance of surviving 1992. But if that is something the game's authorities need to be aware of, the possibilities of a European league are also something for both ITV and BBC to be alert to.

Football, however, has a product everyone wants. So, to some extent, does boxing. If I were running BSB or Sky, I would say we have got to have football or world-class boxing. Already Sky has poached the latest Tyson bout, outbidding ITV for live and recorded rights, so the battle is truly on.

One of the big breakthroughs in our bid for live, quality and exclusive action came with Frank Warren's boxing shows because he was willing to believe that, if the quality of the show was good enough, people would want to go even if it was on television. That has now been established.

After football and boxing, however, the competition for the other sports may be slightly less intense. Top-quality events will always have a market. ITV at present has four big sports — football, athletics, boxing and snooker. Now that the BBC has signed a new six-year contract with snooker, I think ITV's enthusiasm for that might wane a bit.

On the other hand, now that it has won the contract for the 1991 World Cup, I suspect it will provide formidable opposition to the BBC for the next domestic rugby union contract. I also think it is possible that rugby league, which has been very successful for Granada and Yorkshire TV, might attract a network bid from ITV.

Golf also has the capacity to expand. It is quite popular now, but by no means massive. The BBC holds a seven-year contract on the big events in Britain, which tends to take the sport out of the market-place at present.

The Government's proposal to free the listed events from their protected status opens up a whole new ball game. I am sure ITV and satellite stations will compete hard for several of them because they fill all the aims — top quality, live and now exclusive action, and deliver the

it keeps breaking out, which suggests that France have it in them to play more than one style of game.

Fouroux, too, has indulged this season in speculative selection, which has hinted at "horses for courses" — a theme found to a small degree in England's experiment in the front row against Fiji in October, and publicly admitted by John Ryan, the Welsh coach, in his XV to play France.

In an amateur context, it is a dangerous game which may easily lead to discontent. If players who do not earn their living from their sport find themselves enduring a yo-yo international existence, they may well decide to walk away from it.

The French used the visit of the Australians last autumn as a testing ground before reverting to the old guard for the five nations — an old guard, though, spiced by the presence of two youngsters, Devergne and Roumat. The New Zealanders used their tour of Wales and Ireland as a journey during which, in Wheeler's words, "they learned more about themselves and about us than we did about them".

England, too, have recalled their older, tight forwards, which suggests that a hard lesson has been learned — there is no substitute for experience. Whether Wales are right, in responding directly to a French team packed with big forwards, will be determined by their results.

But their policy does suggest a certain incoherence: Phil Pugh, the Neath flanker, here and gone after one cap against New Zealand; Phil Davies moved to the blind-side after a life-time at No. 8 or lock.

In 1980, Wheeler was surrounded by such players as Fran Cotton, Tony Neary and Roger Utley, England's present coach — players whose experience occasionally appeared to have been accumulated despite, rather than because of, the national selectors.

It is interesting that Fouroux talks of flair since it is a popular theme both in Britain and across the Channel, which he has been busy coaching out of his players for the past decade. Nevertheless,

it is open to the London society to contact the RFU directly, although it is more likely that the views of the meeting will be laid before the RFU referee advisory panel.

The law gives referees absolute power already to send off who they like," Don Rutherford, the RFU technical administrator, said.

A straw poll taken at the end of the debate — the second part of a presentation on foul play made by Keith Griffiths (one of London's leading referees) — suggested that the society's views should be made known to the Rugby Football Union, though any future action will be determined by the society's executive committee.

During the debate, use of the "sin bin" as an alternative mode of punishment was dismissed as a "cop-out". Fred Ellis, the chairman of the society's laws and coaching sub-committee,

before his international career ended in 1984.

"It's the same as it was then," Wheeler said. "You have Ireland and Wales in disarray and France in a tangle of their own making, as they sometimes are. Only Scotland seem to be on any positive, progressive path towards the World Cup, and England face them last. If they can go to Murrayfield with three wins behind them, they must have a great chance."

It's difficult not to be optimistic, even allowing for the caution, born of past experience. The Irish have knocked us off a pedestal before but I would put a lot of money on England winning the championship this year, particularly when you look at the stability of the side.

"How much they will miss Dean Richards is hard to say, but the majority of the players have been around. They have a very solid from five and a lot of skill in the backs, plus the confidence of those who played in a successful British Lions party."

In 1980, Wheeler was surrounded by such players as Fran Cotton, Tony Neary and Roger Utley, England's present coach — players whose experience occasionally appeared to have been accumulated despite, rather than because of, the national selectors.

It is interesting that Fouroux talks of flair since it is a popular theme both in Britain and across the Channel, which he has been busy coaching out of his players for the past decade. Nevertheless,

it is open to the London society to contact the RFU directly, although it is more likely that the views of the meeting will be laid before the RFU referee advisory panel.

The law gives referees absolute power already to send off who they like," Don Rutherford, the RFU technical administrator, said.

A straw poll taken at the end of the debate — the second part of a presentation on foul play made by Keith Griffiths (one of London's leading referees) — suggested that the society's views should be made known to the Rugby Football Union, though any future action will be determined by the society's executive committee.

During the debate, use of the "sin bin" as an alternative mode of punishment was dismissed as a "cop-out". Fred Ellis, the chairman of the society's laws and coaching sub-committee,

before his international career ended in 1984.

"It's the same as it was then," Wheeler said. "You have Ireland and Wales in disarray and France in a tangle of their own making, as they sometimes are. Only Scotland seem to be on any positive, progressive path towards the World Cup, and England face them last. If they can go to Murrayfield with three wins behind them, they must have a great chance."

It's difficult not to be optimistic, even allowing for the caution, born of past experience. The Irish have knocked us off a pedestal before but I would put a lot of money on England winning the championship this year, particularly when you look at the stability of the side.

"How much they will miss Dean Richards is hard to say, but the majority of the players have been around. They have a very solid from five and a lot of skill in the backs, plus the confidence of those who played in a successful British Lions party."

In 1980, Wheeler was surrounded by such players as Fran Cotton, Tony Neary and Roger Utley, England's present coach — players whose experience occasionally appeared to have been accumulated despite, rather than because of, the national selectors.

It is interesting that Fouroux talks of flair since it is a popular theme both in Britain and across the Channel, which he has been busy coaching out of his players for the past decade. Nevertheless,

it is open to the London society to contact the RFU directly, although it is more likely that the views of the meeting will be laid before the RFU referee advisory panel.

The law gives referees absolute power already to send off who they like," Don Rutherford, the RFU technical administrator, said.

A straw poll taken at the end of the debate — the second part of a presentation on foul play made by Keith Griffiths (one of London's leading referees) — suggested that the society's views should be made known to the Rugby Football Union, though any future action will be determined by the society's executive committee.

During the debate, use of the "sin bin" as an alternative mode of punishment was dismissed as a "cop-out". Fred Ellis, the chairman of the society's laws and coaching sub-committee,

before his international career ended in 1984.

"It's the same as it was then," Wheeler said. "You have Ireland and Wales in disarray and France in a tangle of their own making, as they sometimes are. Only Scotland seem to be on any positive, progressive path towards the World Cup, and England face them last. If they can go to Murrayfield with three wins behind them, they must have a great chance."

It's difficult not to be optimistic, even allowing for the caution, born of past experience. The Irish have knocked us off a pedestal before but I would put a lot of money on England winning the championship this year, particularly when you look at the stability of the side.

"How much they will miss Dean Richards is hard to say, but the majority of the players have been around. They have a very solid from five and a lot of skill in the backs, plus the confidence of those who played in a successful British Lions party."

In 1980, Wheeler was surrounded by such players as Fran Cotton, Tony Neary and Roger Utley, England's present coach — players whose experience occasionally appeared to have been accumulated despite, rather than because of, the national selectors.

It is interesting that Fouroux talks of flair since it is a popular theme both in Britain and across the Channel, which he has been busy coaching out of his players for the past decade. Nevertheless,

it is open to the London society to contact the RFU directly, although it is more likely that the views of the meeting will be laid before the RFU referee advisory panel.

The law gives referees absolute power already to send off who they like," Don Rutherford, the RFU technical administrator, said.

A straw poll taken at the end of the debate — the second part of a presentation on foul play made by Keith Griffiths (one of London's leading referees) — suggested that the society's views should be made known to the Rugby Football Union, though any future action will be determined by the society's executive committee.

During the debate, use of the "sin bin" as an alternative mode of punishment was dismissed as a "cop-out". Fred Ellis, the chairman of the society's laws and coaching sub-committee,

before his international career ended in 1984.

"It's the same as it was then," Wheeler said. "You have Ireland and Wales in disarray and France in a tangle of their own making, as they sometimes are. Only Scotland seem to be on any positive, progressive path towards the World Cup, and England face them last. If they can go to Murrayfield with three wins behind them, they must have a great chance."

It's difficult not to be optimistic, even allowing for the caution, born of past experience. The Irish have knocked us off a pedestal before but I would put a lot of money on England winning the championship this year, particularly when you look at the stability of the side.

"How much they will miss Dean Richards is hard to say, but the majority of the players have been around. They have a very solid from five and a lot of skill in the backs, plus the confidence of those who played in a successful British Lions party."

In 1980, Wheeler was surrounded by such players as Fran Cotton, Tony Neary and Roger Utley, England's present coach — players whose experience occasionally appeared to have been accumulated despite, rather than because of, the national selectors.

It is interesting that Fouroux talks of flair since it is a popular theme both in Britain and across the Channel, which he has been busy coaching out of his players for the past decade. Nevertheless,

it is open to the London society to contact the RFU directly, although it is more likely that the views of the meeting will be laid before the RFU referee advisory panel.

The law gives referees absolute power already to send off who they like," Don Rutherford, the RFU technical administrator, said.

A straw poll taken at the end of the debate — the second part of a presentation on foul play made by Keith Griffiths (one of London's leading referees) — suggested that the society's views should be made known to the Rugby Football Union, though any future action will be determined by the society's executive committee.

During the debate, use of the "sin bin" as an alternative mode of punishment was dismissed as a "cop-out". Fred Ellis, the chairman of the society's laws and coaching sub-committee,

before his international career ended in 1984.

"It's the same as it was then," Wheeler said. "You have Ireland and Wales in disarray and France in a tangle of their own making, as they sometimes are. Only Scotland seem to be on any positive, progressive path towards the World Cup, and England face them last. If they can go to Murrayfield with three wins behind them, they must have a great chance."

It's difficult not to be optimistic, even allowing for the caution, born of past experience. The Irish have knocked us off a pedestal before but I would put a lot of money on England winning the championship this year, particularly when you look at the stability of the side.

"How much they will miss Dean Richards is hard to say, but the majority of the players have been around. They have a very solid from five and a lot of skill in the backs, plus the confidence of those who played in a successful British Lions party."

In 1980, Wheeler was surrounded by such players as Fran Cotton, Tony Neary and Roger Utley, England's present coach — players whose experience occasionally appeared to have been accumulated despite, rather than because of, the national selectors.

It is interesting that Fouroux talks of flair since it is a popular theme both in Britain and across the Channel, which he has been busy coaching out of his players for the past decade. Nevertheless,

it is open to the London society to contact the RFU directly, although it is more likely that the views of the meeting will be laid before the RFU referee advisory panel.

The law gives referees absolute power already to send off who they like," Don Rutherford, the RFU technical administrator, said.

A straw poll taken at the end of the debate — the second part of a presentation on foul play made by Keith Griffiths (one of London's leading referees) — suggested that the society's views should be made known to the Rugby Football Union, though any future action will be determined by the society's executive committee.

During the debate, use of the "sin bin" as an alternative mode of punishment was dismissed as a "cop-out". Fred Ellis, the chairman of the society's laws and coaching sub-committee,

before his international career ended in 1984.

"It's the same as it was then," Wheeler said. "You have Ireland and Wales in disarray and France in a tangle of their own making, as they sometimes are. Only Scotland seem to be on any positive, progressive path towards the World Cup, and England face them last. If they can go to Murrayfield with three wins behind them, they must have a great chance."

It's difficult not to be optimistic, even allowing for the caution, born of past experience. The Irish have knocked us off a pedestal before but I would put a lot of money on England winning the championship this year, particularly when you look at the stability of the side.

"How much they will miss Dean Richards is hard to say, but the majority of the players have been around. They have a very solid from five and a lot of skill in the backs, plus the confidence of those who played in a successful British Lions party."

In 1980, Wheeler was surrounded by such players as Fran Cotton, Tony Neary and Roger Utley, England's present coach — players whose experience occasionally appeared to have been accumulated despite, rather than because of, the national selectors.

It is interesting that Fouroux talks of flair since it is a popular theme both in Britain and across the Channel, which he has been busy coaching out of his players for the past decade. Nevertheless,

it is open to the London society to contact the RFU directly, although it is more likely that the views of the meeting will be laid before the RFU referee advisory panel.

The law gives referees absolute power already to send off who they like," Don Rutherford, the RFU technical administrator, said.

A straw poll taken at the end of the debate — the second part of a presentation on foul play made by Keith Griffiths (one of London's leading referees) — suggested that the society's views should be made known to the Rugby Football Union, though any future action will be determined by the society's executive committee.

During the debate, use of the "sin bin" as an alternative mode of punishment was dismissed as a "cop-out". Fred Ellis, the chairman of the society's laws and coaching sub-committee,

before his international career ended in 1984.

"It's the same as it was then," Wheeler said. "You have Ireland and Wales in disarray and France in a tangle of their own making, as they sometimes are. Only Scotland seem to be on any positive, progressive path towards the World Cup, and England face them last. If they can go to Murrayfield with three wins behind them, they must have a great chance."

It's difficult not to be optimistic, even allowing for the caution, born of past experience. The Irish have knocked us off a pedestal before but I would put a lot of money on England winning the championship this year, particularly when you look at the stability of the side.

"How much they will miss Dean Richards is hard to say, but the majority of the players have been around. They have a very solid from five and a lot of skill in the backs, plus the confidence of those who played in a successful British Lions party."

Harford signs for Derby but Forest fail in the market

By Dennis Sigay and Dennis Shaw

Derby County completed the signing of Mick Harford from Luton Town yesterday as their near neighbours, Nottingham Forest, tried unsuccessfully to bring two newcomers to the City Ground. Attempts by Brian Clough to sign Gary McAllister and David Currie for an outlay of nearly £2 million ended in temporary frustration.

The Forest manager was ready to pay £1.1 million to Leicester City for McAllister and £750,000 to Barnsley for Currie but neither deal could be completed before the Littlewoods Cup tie with Tottenham Hotspur. The McAllister deal was said by the player's agent, John Holmes, to have hit a last-minute hitch. "It looks as though the deal will go on ice for a short time," Holmes said.

Forest's move for Currie, a goal-scoring forward, appeared to be near completion, but the player returned to Yorkshire without completing. "Negotiations are continuing but a lot has to be sorted out before a deal can be finalised," Ronnie Fenton, Clough's assistant, said.

Mick Harford, the Luton Town forward who missed the first half of the season after undergoing operations on an

injured ankle, signed for Derby in a £480,000 transfer to end Arthur Cox's long search for a tall partner for Dean Saunders.

David Evans, the former Luton chairman, who conducted the transfer negotiations as one of the two directors delegated to deal with team matters, said Harford had been "a fantastic pro" in his five years at Keweenow Road but had suffered many injury problems and was always worried about playing on the artificial surface.

He played only 33 League games out of 60 in the past 18 months, scoring seven goals. "That is not a sufficient strike rate," Evans said. Harford is set to make his debut for City against Forest on Saturday.

Evans said he would meet Jim Ryan, who was appointed Luton's manager last week, today to discuss the playing structure of the club. "There is money available, but only for quality players," he said. Luton had 41 professionals after the sale of Harford and Roy Wegerle to Queen's Park Rangers for £1 million, still the largest number in the League.

Evans criticized Wegerle's lack of goals, the signing on

loan of Mal Donaghy from Manchester United — "an unmitigated disaster, they never come back in anything" — and the defensive style of the team under Ray Harford, the previous manager.

Evans said Luton's future was with youngsters, "not bringing in has-beens". He predicted that they would finish in a mid-table position.

Brian Gayle has been transferred to Ipswich Town from Manchester City for £350,000. Gayle, aged 24, was signed by Manchester City from Wimbledon for £325,000 after their former manager, Mel Machin, at the start of last season and made 66 first-team appearances for City.

Machin made him City's captain at the start of this season, but he has not figured in the team since Machin was dismissed and Howard Kendall took over. Kendall may now make a move to sign Adrian Heath from Aston Villa.

Colchester United have failed in their bid to sign Nicky Morgan from Stoke. The clubs agreed terms at £40,000 but the forward, whom Colchester manager, Mick Mills, was hopeful of recruiting from his former club, has decided against the move.

FAs may unite for championship bid

By Steve Acteson

The football associations of Wales, Scotland, and both Northern and the Republic of Ireland are to discuss mounting an audacious bid to stage the 1996 European championships — even in the face of a possible counter-bid by the English FA.

In Dublin, Tony O'Neill, the general secretary of the Football Association of Ireland, said that the plan was "still in the embryonic stage and nothing hard and fast".

It will, however, be explored further when Ernie Walker, secretary of the Scottish FA, and his counterpart from Belfast, David Bowen, are invited by the originator of the idea, Alan Evans, secretary of the Welsh FA, to hold exploratory talks when they gather in Stockholm in a fortnight for the draw for the 1992 championships in Sweden.

O'Neill said that without Scotland or Northern Ireland, the scheme would not be viable. "Alan Evans first contacted me last October to see if we could do it on a sharing basis in the way Belgium and Holland are hoping to do and also in the way that the World Cup of rugby will be held next

year in these islands," he said.

O'Neill admitted there were obstacles to overcome, among them the question of how many of the host teams would qualify automatically. He said: "Only one team can qualify as hosts and obviously that is a problem we have not yet addressed; but for us it is the staging of such a prestigious event that is the really important thing."

Another disadvantage might prove to be the trend towards all-seat stadiums. "UEFA are not as tough as FIFA on that line," O'Neill said, adding that the four venues he and Evans had in mind were Lansdowne Road in Dublin, Windsor Park in Belfast, Cardiff Arms Park and Hampden Park.

At Lancaster Gate, David Bloomfield, a spokesman, said that the English FA was waiting for the Taylor report on hooliganism before considering its strategy.

He did not think that the smaller countries' bid would weaken any attempt by England to hold the competition in 1996. "What they do is up to them," he said.

FOR YOUR FREE MOTOR QUOTE CALL US ON

0800 717188

MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9AM-5PM

Now the fastest insurance on the road, is on the phone

Chances are shopping around for the most competitive motor insurance isn't your favourite chore.

But now it can be as simple as picking up the phone and dialling Eagle Star Direct. You'll get a comprehensive

MotorQuote that won't cost a penny but could save you a lot of time and money.

So why not phone Eagle Star Direct today free on 0800 717188. And discover how we take greater care of you and your car.



Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm
Our extra service starts as soon as you get in touch

Not available in Northern Ireland
Eagle Star Insurance Company Limited, Registered in London No. 42051
Registered Office: 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8JQ
TID/18.1G

Buoyant Elliott's demand to Coe

From David Powell
Athletics Correspondent

Peter Elliott yesterday challenged Sebastian Coe to race him over 1,500 metres a fortnight before they meet at the distance in the Commonwealth Games. Elliott performed a small miracle in breaking the 1,000 metres record set by Peter Snell 26 years ago — and the confidence it brought had him calling for Coe to be brought on.

Brian Gayle has been transferred to Ipswich Town from Manchester City for £350,000. Gayle, aged 24, was signed by Manchester City from Wimbledon for £325,000 after their former manager, Mel Machin, at the start of last season and made 66 first-team appearances for City.

Machin made him City's captain at the start of this season, but he has not figured in the team since Machin was dismissed and Howard Kendall took over. Kendall may now make a move to sign Adrian Heath from Aston Villa.

Colchester United have failed in their bid to sign Nicky Morgan from Stoke. The clubs agreed terms at £40,000 but the forward, whom Colchester manager, Mick Mills, was hopeful of recruiting from his former club, has decided against the move.

Leeds are accused by Blackburn

The manager of Blackburn Rovers, Don Mackay, has accused Leeds of gamesmanship after studying a video of the last-minute penalty miss that cost his team a point at Ewood Park last Saturday.

David May skied the spot kick over the bar as Leeds held on to win 2-1 and Mackay said: "The video shows Gordon Strachan going into the box three times to talk to the referee."

"Vinny Jones went in once and then keeper, Mervyn Day, walked out of the box to say something to a linesman and then stood a yard in front of his goal-line. It was a disgraceful piece of gamesmanship and totally intimidating for the penalty-taker."

Alan Robinson, the referee's spokesman, will appear before the Football Association disciplinary committee today, charged with bringing the game into disrepute.

He did not think that the smaller countries' bid would weaken any attempt by England to hold the competition in 1996. "What they do is up to them," he said.

The charge arises from comments made by Robinson — who is public relations officer for the Referees Association — in a newspaper article after the stormy first division match between Arsenal and Norwich, which ended in a brawl.

Italy, the World Cup hosts, have decided to extend the contract of their national team manager, Azeglio Vicini, until 1992 in a show of confidence before next June's finals.

• NAPLES: Diego Maradona threatened to make an Italian journalist, who criticized him, eat his newspaper, during an angry confrontation at a television station.

"You should be ashamed of yourself, if you know what shame means. I'll make you eat this newspaper!" Maradona told the Naples journalist, Giuseppe Pacifico.

Pacifico, from the Naples daily, *Mattino*, had given Maradona a 3.5 out of 10 for his performance in last Sunday's league match against Udinese. Maradona, who was due to make a broadcast with Pacifico on Monday, first bashed a copy of *Mattino* then threw it at him.

Gallagher, born in the Republic of Ireland, has lived in Scotland for the last 22 years but still has an Irish passport, making him ineligible for the Games.

Gallagher had apparently not realized this until a few days ago. His only hope is that there will be something of a bureaucratic miracle, enabling him to acquire naturalization within 24 hours. If he is

successful he will have to catch a separate flight to New Zealand because the rest of the team began their 26-hour journey yesterday afternoon.

If Gallagher does not catch a plane today he will apparently rule out.

"The Commonwealth Games council has said it will accept Anthony in the team if he arrives by Friday," the executive administrator of the Scottish Badminton Union, Anne Smillie, said. "And as far as I am aware, after that he is ineligible. Anthony accepts that he has made a mistake but he is going to travel to Croydon anyway in the hope

that the passport office can issue him with something acceptable at the last moment."

White red tape has been cut through quickly in the past for so-called special cases — notably Zola Budd — Gallagher presents an unusual problem.

The Nationality Enquiry Bureau will want to satisfy itself, for instance, why he did not obtain a British passport when he had so long in which to do so. If he cannot convince officials, and quickly, Gallagher's challenge in the singles, men's doubles and the team event will not even get off the ground.

Scots' champion not British

By Richard Eaton

Anthony Gallagher, the Scottish national badminton champion, is likely to miss the Commonwealth Games starting in Auckland next week unless he can acquire a British passport by midday today.

Gallagher, born in the Republic of Ireland, has lived in Scotland for the last 22 years but still has an Irish passport, making him ineligible for the Games.

Gallagher had apparently not realized this until a few days ago. His only hope is that there will be something of a bureaucratic miracle, enabling him to acquire naturalization within 24 hours. If he is

successful he will have to catch a separate flight to New Zealand because the rest of the team began their 26-hour journey yesterday afternoon.

If Gallagher does not catch a plane today he will apparently rule out.

"The Commonwealth Games council has said it will accept Anthony in the team if he arrives by Friday," the executive administrator of the Scottish Badminton Union, Anne Smillie, said. "And as far as I am aware, after that he is ineligible. Anthony accepts that he has made a mistake but he is going to travel to Croydon anyway in the hope

that the passport office can issue him with something acceptable at the last moment."

White red tape has been cut through quickly in the past for so-called special cases — notably Zola Budd — Gallagher presents an unusual problem.

The Nationality Enquiry Bureau will want to satisfy itself, for instance, why he did not obtain a British passport when he had so long in which to do so. If he cannot convince officials, and quickly, Gallagher's challenge in the singles, men's doubles and the team event will not even get off the ground.

• NAPLES: Diego Maradona threatened to make an Italian journalist, who criticized him, eat his newspaper, during an angry confrontation at a television station.

"You should be ashamed of yourself, if you know what shame means. I'll make you eat this newspaper!" Maradona told the Naples journalist, Giuseppe Pacifico.

Pacifico, from the Naples daily, *Mattino*, had given Maradona a 3.5 out of 10 for his performance in last Sunday's league match against Udinese. Maradona, who was due to make a broadcast with Pacifico on Monday, first bashed a copy of *Mattino* then threw it at him.

Gallagher, born in the Republic of Ireland, has lived in Scotland for the last 22 years but still has an Irish passport, making him ineligible for the Games.

Gallagher had apparently not realized this until a few days ago. His only hope is that he will be able to travel to Croydon anyway in the hope

that the passport office can issue him with something acceptable at the last moment."

White red tape has been cut through quickly in the past for so-called special cases — notably Zola Budd — Gallagher presents an unusual problem.

The Nationality Enquiry Bureau will want to satisfy itself, for instance, why he did not obtain a British passport when he had so long in which to do so. If he cannot convince officials, and quickly, Gallagher's challenge in the singles, men's doubles and the team event will not even get off the ground.

• NAPLES: Diego Maradona threatened to make an Italian journalist, who criticized him, eat his newspaper, during an angry confrontation at a television station.

"You should be ashamed of yourself, if you know what shame means. I'll make you eat this newspaper!" Maradona told the Naples journalist, Giuseppe Pacifico.

Pacifico, from the Naples daily, *Mattino*, had given Maradona a 3.5 out of 10 for his performance in last Sunday's league match against Udinese. Maradona, who was due to make a broadcast with Pacifico on Monday, first bashed a copy of *Mattino* then threw it at him.

Gallagher, born in the Republic of Ireland, has lived in Scotland for the last 22 years but still has an Irish passport, making him ineligible for the Games.

Gallagher had apparently not realized this until a few days ago. His only hope is that he will be able to travel to Croydon anyway in the hope

that the passport office can issue him with something acceptable at the last moment."

White red tape has been cut through quickly in the past for so-called special cases — notably Zola Budd — Gallagher presents an unusual problem.

The Nationality Enquiry Bureau will want to satisfy itself, for instance, why he did not obtain a British passport when he had so long in which to do so. If he cannot convince officials, and quickly, Gallagher's challenge in the singles, men's doubles and the team event will not even get off the ground.

• NAPLES: Diego Maradona threatened to make an Italian journalist, who criticized him, eat his newspaper, during an angry confrontation at a television station.

"You should be ashamed of yourself, if you know what shame means. I'll make you eat this newspaper!" Maradona told the Naples journalist, Giuseppe Pacifico.

Pacifico, from the Naples daily, *Mattino*, had given Maradona a 3.5 out of 10 for his performance in last Sunday's league match against Udinese. Maradona, who was due to make a broadcast with Pacifico on Monday, first bashed a copy of *Mattino* then threw it at him.

Gallagher, born in the Republic of Ireland, has lived in Scotland for the last 22 years but still has an Irish passport, making him ineligible for the Games.

Gallagher had apparently not realized this until a few days ago. His only hope is that he will be able to travel to Croydon anyway in the hope

that the passport office can issue him with something acceptable at the last moment."

White red tape has been cut through quickly in the past for so-called special cases — notably Zola Budd — Gallagher presents an unusual problem.

The Nationality Enquiry Bureau will want to satisfy itself, for instance, why he did not obtain a British passport when he had so long in which to do so. If he cannot convince officials, and quickly, Gallagher's challenge in the singles, men's doubles and the team event will not even get off the ground.

• NAPLES: Diego Maradona threatened to make an Italian journalist, who criticized him, eat his newspaper, during an angry confrontation at a television station.

"You should be ashamed of yourself, if you know what shame means. I'll make you eat this newspaper!" Maradona told the Naples journalist, Giuseppe Pacifico.

Pacifico, from the Naples daily, *Mattino*, had given Maradona a 3.5 out of 10 for his performance in last Sunday's league match against Udinese. Maradona, who was due to make a broadcast with Pacifico on Monday, first bashed a copy of *Mattino* then threw it at him.

Gallagher, born in the Republic of Ireland, has lived in Scotland for the last 22 years but still has an Irish passport, making him ineligible for the Games.

Gallagher had apparently not realized this until a few days ago. His only hope is that he will be able to travel to Croydon anyway in the hope

that the passport office can issue him with something acceptable at the last moment."

White red tape has been cut through quickly in the past for so-called special cases — notably Zola Budd — Gallagher presents an unusual problem.

The Nationality Enquiry Bureau will want to satisfy itself, for instance, why he did not obtain a British passport when he had so long in which to do so. If he cannot convince officials, and quickly, Gallagher's challenge in the singles, men's doubles and the team event will not even get off the ground.